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THE Fisherman

—THE LONG ISLAND, METROPOLITAN NEW YORK EDITION—

October 17th—23rd, 1985
Volume 20, Number 41

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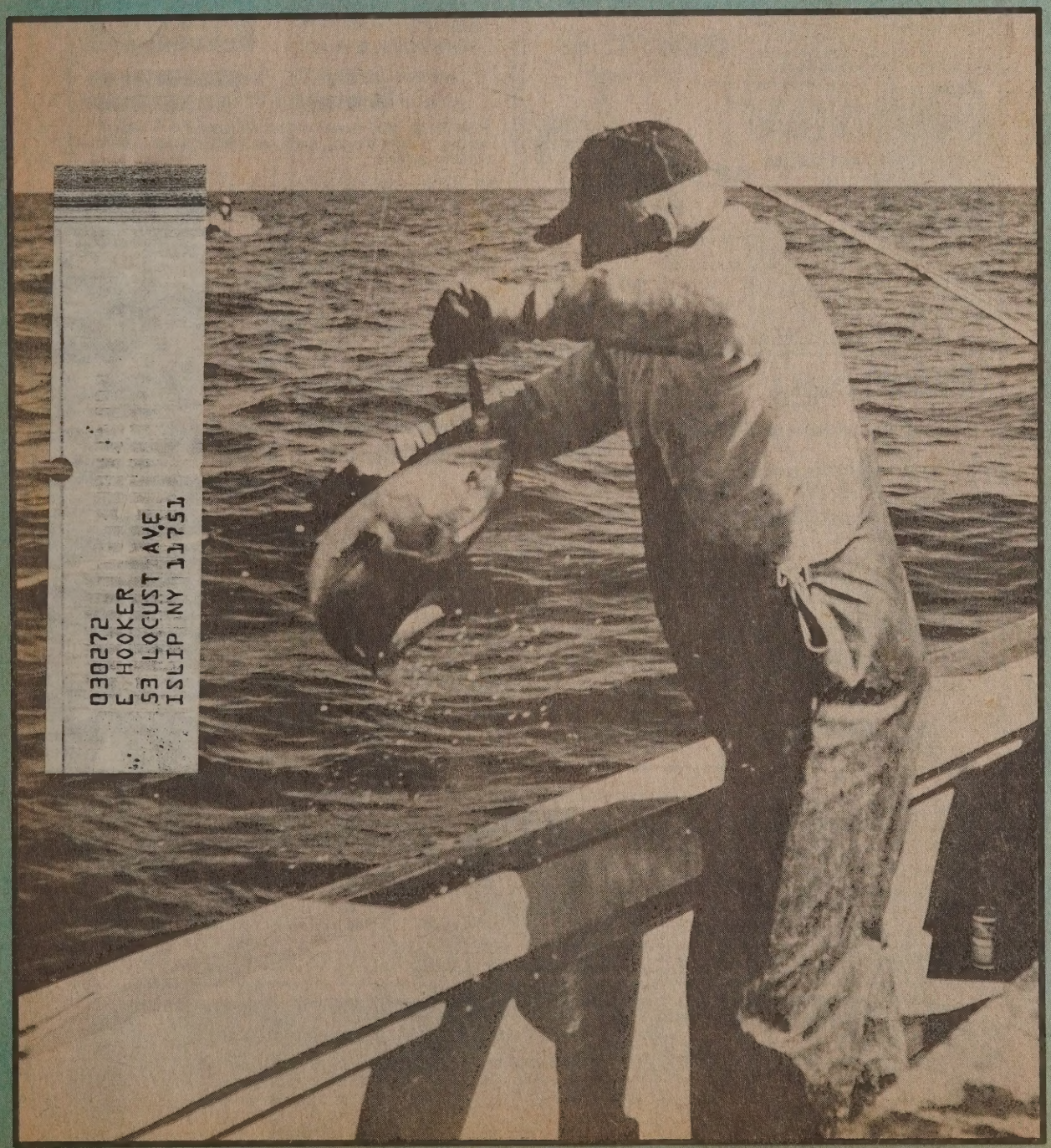

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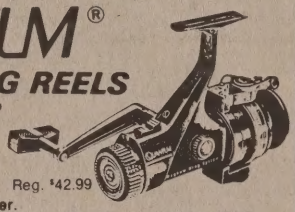

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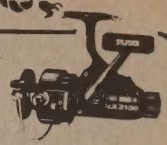

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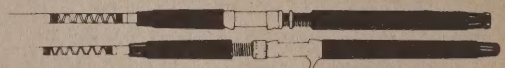

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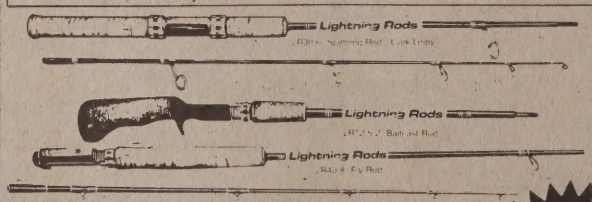

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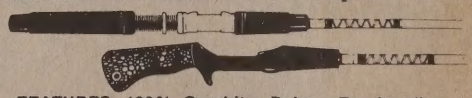

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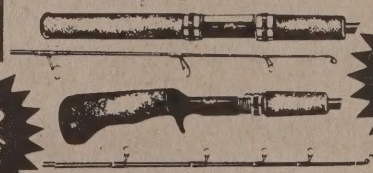

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THE Fisherman

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Volume 20, Number 41 October 17th, 1985

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ABOUT THE COVER:

Some of the wildest bluefishing of the season will be taking place in the week's ahead. The biggest kind of slammers will dominate the action as they feed up for their annual trek south. The articles on pages 16 and 28 of this week's issue should help you to share in this exciting fall fishing. Cover photo by Pete Barrett.

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The U.S. Power Squadron has printed a pamphlet entitled, "Learn to Skipper a Boat with Confidence," which describes free classes available and tells where boaters can take the classes. Copies of the pamphlet can be obtained by writing the U.S. Power Squadron, P.O. Box 30423, Raleigh, NC 27622.

MARINE CREDIT SURGES ON STRONG BOATING SALES

Marine loan portfolios of the nation's major boat financiers surged ahead 36 percent in 1984 fueled by a 15 percent increase in new boat sales for the year. The advances in the boat loan sector came at the same time total installment loan portfolios were increasing at a 28 percent rate. These statistics, taken from the fifth annual study of the marine market conducted by the National Marine Bankers Association (NMBA), are based on $17.4 billion in consumer loans held, of which $2.3 billion are recreational boat loans.

Marine loans bounced back from a one-year dip in 1983, increasing from 9.9 to 13.5 percent of lenders' combined installment loan portfolios. While the advance was clearly tied to the robust health of the new boat market, gains came from strong activity in the used boat sector as well.

First noticed in 1983, the trend that marine lenders are extending more credit to the smaller boat/smaller loan customer is evident in a second consecutive yearly decrease in the average boat loan transaction: to $25,849 in 1984 from $27,505 a year earlier. While those average dollar amounts don't necessarily correlate to a small boat or loan, underlying evidence suggests most lenders are pursuing the $7,000 to $15,000 boat loan as energetically as they cultivate the $75,000 yacht loan.

Other key findings of the annual marine lending study indicated:

- Direct-to-public loan terms now average 89 months, down from 98 in 1983; indirect or through-retailer loan terms declined to 108 months from 111 months in the same period.
- Variable rate boat loans are now offered by 45 percent of the NMBA membership, up from 40 percent in 1983. The most common form of variable loan is tied to the rate on Treasury Bills, readjusts semi-annually, offers 15-year amortization, and is often tied to a five-year balloon note.

SUPER FALL BASS RUN EXPECTED FOR OCTOBER'S FULL MOON TOURNAMENT

Anglers of all ages, including men, women and juniors, are tuning their gear for Montauk Marine Basin's 9th Annual Full Moon Striped Bass Tournament, to be held October 25th through October 27th.

Montauk Marine's tournament directors have expanded the prize money this year. Cash prizes of $300, $200, $100 will be awarded to the top three fish in two fishing categories. These categories include a $600 total purse for boating anglers and a $600 purse for the surfcasting division, with a 40 angler minimum for each category.

Early entrants have expressed that this year's fall fishing has been excellent. September's full moon landed an abundance of large fish in Montauk and have boaters and surfcasters excited for October's full moon bass run.

Boaters are expected to drift live eels for stripers at favorite grounds around the Montauk Point Lighthouse on to Northwest at Sluiceway and at Plum Gut, between Long Island and Block Island Sounds.

Surfcasters, a special breed among Montauk's finest, will be fishing the Montauk Point shoreline and invite newcomers to participate. Montauk Marine Basin, and local tackle shops can set up the new surfcaster so they may experience this thrill of beach fishing.

Persons interested in chartering a six person charter boat for the Tournament, have been asked to speak to Mark Jarboe at Montauk Marine, who is in charge of charter booking for Montauk's charter fleet.

This year's entry fee is $25 per angler and will cover 52 hours of fishing, beginning at Noon, October 25th and ending at 4PM on October 27th. All fish must be weighed in at the Marine Basin weigh station, IGFA rules apply to boating anglers in the tournament, except for allowance of wire lining and umbrella rigs for trolling.

Entry forms are available at Montauk Marine Basin on West Lake Drive and at the Montauk Chamber of Commerce Building on the Plaza in Montauk.

A "Chowder Bash" will conclude the tournament, following the awards ceremony at the Montauk Marine Basin on Sunday afternoon.

The 1984 winners were: overall winner, Kurt Braunstein, Montauk,

NY with a 45½ lb. striper; Mrs. Jean Konikowski, Norwich, CT, women's division, 35½ lbs., and Stuart Heath of Montauk, NY, taking the surfcasting division.

For applications or further information, contact Carl Darenberg, Jr., at (516) 668-5900.

GROVERBUILT SETS WORLD RECORD FOR AMERICA

First outboard boat to cross the Atlantic Ocean, from the Americas to Europe, with only one stop in the Azores for refueling. The 26 ft. Groverbuilt boat (one model, in a small line of boats built by the Grover family on Long Island) is powered by twin 65 hp Evinrude outboards and a 9.9 hp auxiliary. The 9.9 hp was used 50 percent of the trip to conserve fuel. The 26 footer encountered seas of over 20 ft. as a result of Hurricane Claudette and survived the journey completely under its own power. The father and son team of Al Grover Sr. and Jr. piloted the boat to the Azores where Al's second son, Dante Grover, joined him for the run from the Azores to Europe.

NMMA, SEA GRANT TO INVENTORY U.S. BOATING FACILITIES

The National Marine Manufacturers Association (NMMA) is providing $20,000 for the University of Rhode Island Sea Grant Marine Advisory Service to inventory all recreational boating facilities shoreside in the United States geographic area. This will be the first and only national listing of marinas, boatyards, yacht clubs and condominium marinas. Neil Ross, URI's marine recreation specialist, is coordinator of the project. NMMA expects to present the results of this survey to the President's Commission on America's Outdoors to detail where there is need for public access to the water to enhance recreational opportunity and use. A companion NMMA study, inventorying the nation's boat launching ramps, will pinpoint facility needs in the small boat market.

According to NMMA estimates, in 1984 there were 4,489 marinas and boatyards plus 1,300 yacht clubs in the United States. No figures are available as to the number of condominium marinas (dockominiums) in existence. The total recreational fleet last year was estimated to include 13.49 million boats used by 62.17 million Americans who spent approximately $12.34 billion on boating at the retail level.

The placement of boating facilities determines the location, kind and amount of recreational boating and sport fishing possible in any geographic area. According to NMMA's George Rounds, "This national inventory of boating facilities will be used to identify the areas of high and low boat access and use. It should help stimulate boating activity by making it easier for Americans to get on the water."

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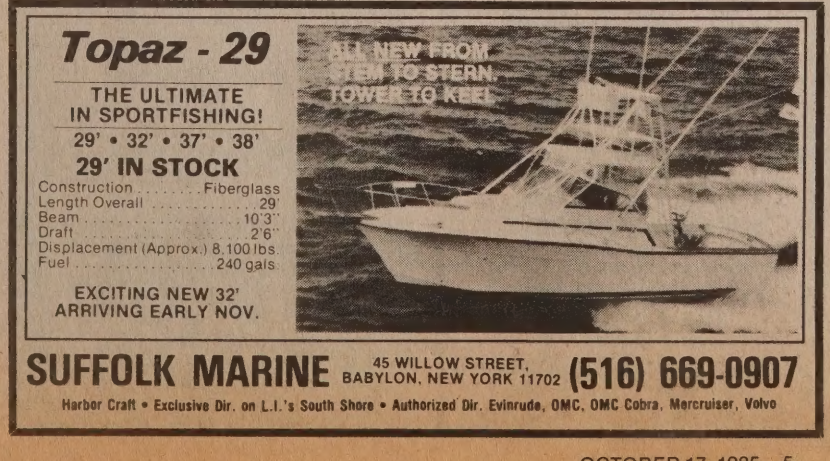
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★ PRODUCT REVIEW ★

BOMBER LONG "A" PLUGS

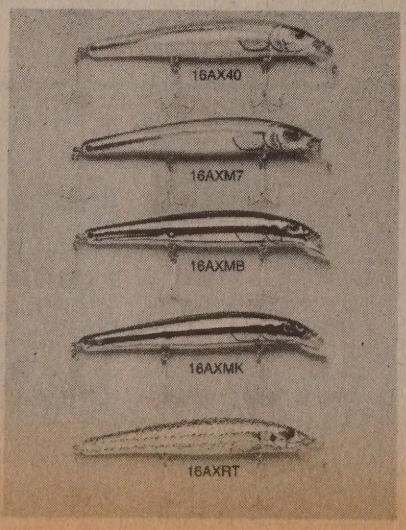
by Fred Golofaro

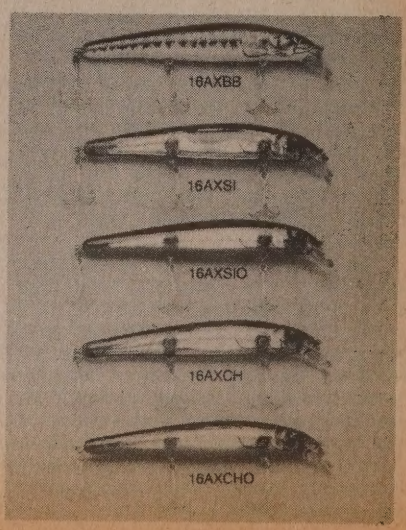
Writing a Product Review when it concerns an artificial lure can be risky business. After all, the bottom line as far as most fishermen are concerned, is simply whether or not the lure in question catches fish. So it was with a sigh of relief that during a recent gathering of editorial staffers, that I was elected to review Bomber Bait Company's Long "A" series of minnow-shaped swimming plugs. Several models were already included in my tackle collection as I had developed an early respect for the quality of these plugs, as well as for their fish catching ability. As custodian of the Weekly Surf Report column in the Long Island-Metro New York edition of The Fisherman, I couldn't help but notice the increasing number of times these lures were showing up in the reports. While outdistanced by various models of needlefish plugs, the Bombers were obviously giving established minnow favorites such as the RedFin, Rebel and Hellcat a run for their money.

As with many major lure manufacturers, Bomber Bait Company's roots are in the freshwater market. Unlike many of the freshwater lures that find their way into the saltwater arena, the Long "A" plugs stood up well to the abuses of big fish and heavy water and quickly earned the respect of surf regulars. The only flaws were minor ones and they could easily be corrected by the manufacturer if they choose to do so.

The Long "A" lineup includes several models of interest to saltwater anglers and that includes surfmen and boat casters alike. One is a 4½ inch model, available as a solid body shallow runner (15A, 3/8 oz.), a jointed shallow runner (15J, 3/8 oz.) and a deep runner (25A, 1/2 oz.). This small version of the plug has proven itself on school bass and weaks, particularly during the spring and summer when small baitfish dominate our inshore waters. This model has become a favorite of New York and Connecticut anglers who prowl the shores of Long Island Sound.

Next in the lineup is the Long "A" Heavy Duty, a 6 inch plug that is available as a shallow runner (16A, 7/8 oz., #1 hooks) or a deep runner (26A, 1½ oz, 1/0 hooks). The Heavy Duty shallow runner is widely favored over the deep runner by most casters, but the plug does have one drawback. The #1 hooks that the Heavy Duty comes equipped with have proven inadequate for most of the bass, blues and weaks you're likely to encounter. To alleviate the problem, you can move up to a larger hook and risk harming the plug's swimming action, or like most regulars, try to get hold of some 4X strong Eagle Claw trebles.





They will stand up to far more abuse than the plug's original hooks, but can at times be difficult to come by.

The workhorse of the Long "A" series is the Magnum model which is available only as a shallow runner. It measures seven inches, weighs in at 1½ ounces, and comes equipped with 3/0 3X (triple strong) Mustad trebles. This particular model has been a big favorite with the Montauk wetsuit crowd ever since it was introduced and has accounted for numerous cow bass over the past couple of seasons.

Johnny Kronuch, of Johnny's Tackle Shop in Montauk, probably has more surfmen pass through his doors than most shops on the East Coast. Both the Long "A" Heavy Duty and Magnum models get a heavy play from surfmen here and the plugs are among John's favorites as well. The tackleman added that Bombers have been the top selling minnow-shaped swimmers in his shop for the past two seasons. "They are durable, have a tough, long-lasting finish, cast especially well for lures of this design, and they catch fish! Bass and weakfish are particularly fond of them." John noted that the best sellers are silver/black back, silver/blue back and red/white.

Paul Graniello's J&J Tackle Shop in Patchogue, New York, is also well travelled by the surf set. When I called him to get his opinion on the Bomber Long "A", he very nearly dropped the phone. Call it E.S.P. or whatever you please, but as we spoke, four big stripers lay at his feet on the shop's floor and—you guessed it—they were all taken on Bombers, Long "A" Magnums (blue back) to be exact.

Before putting Ozzie Van Helmond, who along with Gary Maher caught the fish, on the phone, Paul noted that he can hardly keep the Heavy Duty and Magnum models in stock. Aside from their fish-catching ability, Paul thought that their castability and strong construction were most responsible for their popularity.

Ozzie added that the plugs' unique swimming action, especially when worked very slowly, draws strikes when others don't. The hard fishing regular has yet to have one of these plugs suffer any body or lip damage, but was quick to note that the split rings on these lures do need replacing. This is an obvious, albeit, minor flaw as the split rings rust immediately. A switch by the manufacturer to stainless steel split rings would obviously eliminate the problem.

The plugs durability is derived from a unique "photo print" finish which produces 19 different color patterns. Extra thick walls add strength and weight to the body of these plugs and a molded-in lip adds to their toughness.

For a catalog or information concerning Bombers Long "A" series, contact Bomber Bait Company, P.O. Box 1058, Gainesville, TX 76240, (817-665-5505).

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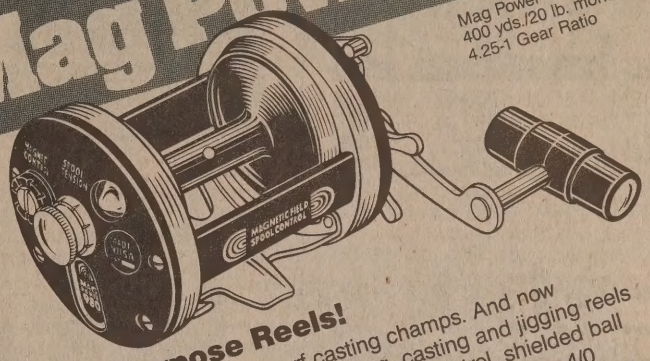

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THE TACKLE DOCTOR

by Russ Wilson

Dear Doc,

Having just moved to the East Coast from the Midwest, I am at a total loss as to which kind of tackle I will need to fish the ocean. At first, we will be fishing from shore (rip-rap, surf and jetty), but once we become accustomed to the ocean, we would like to get into boat fishing for the bigger fish.

For openers, what do you suggest we purchase to fish the inshore waters for bass, blues, weaks and some bottom fish, including tog and maybe fluke. *Bob Whittier.*

Dear Bob,

You might start off with an 8 or 9 foot rod that is rated to handle lines of up to 25 lb. test and lures in the 1½ to 4 ounce range. Match it up with a mid-size spinning or conventional type casting reel and try some practice casting around the local ball field or at one of the school lots.

You will need some terminal tackle for bait fishing and a small selection of plugs, metals and bucktails for casting to bass, blues or weakfish, and maybe a few heavy leaders to avoid the bite-offs that often occur when a blue or weakfish decides to engulf the bait or lure.

Visit one of the local tackle shops that cater to surf and jetty fishermen and let the person behind the counter know what kind of fishing you plan to do. Most tackle shop owners are "experts" at fishing their local waters and they will do their best to give you tackle that will fit your specific needs.

* * *

Dear Doc,

I seem to recall reading somewhere that a passable night light can be fashioned from a regular flashlight. I am referring to the type that holds two D cell batteries, not one of the larger 4 or 6 battery models. At present, I use a miner's light and find it too bulky with its battery pack which is carried in a pants pocket and the connecting wire which usually wraps itself around my neck or limits my mobility when climbing around on the rocks. *Ronald Green.*

Dear Ron,

I do not recall a story about the portable night light using a two cell flashlight, but am aware of what you describe.

A few years back surf and jetty fishermen were using the Ever Ready waterproof flashlight in place of the traditional miner's lamp. These were home fashioned using electrician's tape to secure a short length of line to hold the flashlight securely around the angler's neck.

When it came time to change lures, light up a path along the rocks or land a fish, the angler simply held the flashlight under his chin, or in his mouth. The plastic housing of the light was not affected by corrosion or by the occasional banging it got when slapped against the protruding rock.

Expense-wise, these lights were much less costly than the miner's lamp, but they were cumbersome due to the overall size of the flashlight when compared to a miner's lamp, which is quite compact.

Each has its drawbacks. We did not like the "feel" of a light hanging from our neck and went back to the miner's lamp because all of the weight was in a rear pants pocket and only the light was worn around the neck or on the top of the head.

Others who still use the flashlight find it more comfortable to use when fishing off the surf where changing baits, replacing rigs or other tasks can be done while sitting.

* * *

Dear Doc,

My wife and I are recent converts to freshwater fishing and after spending most of our married life fishing the salt, we are at a loss when it comes to selecting the correct footwear for wading streams. We both have chest high waders and hip boots with the regular cleated soles. They do not give satisfactory service when wading swift flowing streams such as those where the best trout fishing is normally found.

We need help in selecting some type of cleat to ensure safe footing. Do you have any suggestions.

Danny O'Brien.

Dear Danny,

You can purchase strap-on cleats at most sporting goods outlets that cater to trout fishermen. You may, or may not, want to use cleats. Some stream fishermen prefer the felt soles while others would not venture into swirling waters without a set of high grade cleats firmly attached to their waders or hip boots.

We've used both and tend to go with the cleats for most stream fishing where the bottom is compos-

ed of small rocks. For wading a swift stream that has weed growth, moss and such, we find the felt is a better material. Either way, I suggest you pick up a wading staff and use it. Far too often we tend to leave some items behind to lighten our load and usually the wading staff is the first item to go. It can save your life, especially during spring and late fall when water temperatures are just above the freezing point.

I would stay away from the strap-on cleats when fishing creeks or streams where the bottom is made up of thick oozy mud. This type of cleat can come loose in mud and can be more trouble than they are worth.

* * *

Dear Doc,

I bought a custom rod from one of the tackle shops in my home town last year. I've only used the rod a few times and I do like the way it performs. However, after spending more than $100 for a custom built rod, I expect it to hold up for more than one season's use. Already the reel seat has broken loose and the reel sits off at an angle from the rod guides. This makes me believe I am ruining the natural bend of the rod and maybe even causing undue stress on the rod guides which will make them wear faster than if the reel lined up properly.

Do you have any suggestions for repairing the reel seat without taking off all the guides and installing a new reel seat? And, if I do have to replace the reel seat, do you recommend using the lightweight graphite or one constructed of chrome over brass?

Richard Takas.

Dear Richard,

I'd beat feet to the person who built that rod. There is no excuse for a reel seat coming loose when it is properly installed. Today's glues are far superior to those used back in the 50s and even then we did not have reel seats that turned if they were put on correctly.

If you can't bring yourself to approach the custom rod builder, I suggest you take the rod to another shop that specializes in rod building. I've had commercially built rods that developed a loose reel seat and and was able to force glue between the grip and the reel seat to make a passable repair. The rods that have cork handles cannot be repaired in this manner because you just can't push the cork away from the reel seat. Those that have hypalon type grips can be repaired by forcing the grip back from the reel seat and using a tube or syringe to shoot the glue under the reel seat.

If you had the same problem with a less expensive rod, I'd say your best bet would be to "pin" the reel seat. This is very easy to do. You simply drill a small hole through the reel seat and insert a slender pin (a finishing nail will work also) into the hole and load it with epoxy glue.

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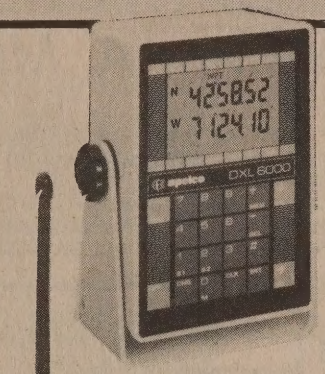

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— FEDERAL BASS PLAN —

MID-ATLANTIC COUNCIL PLAN REVIEWED

by William A. Muller

The long-awaited Federal striped bass plan from the Mid-Atlantic Council was the topic of discussion at a poorly attended public hearing in Riverhead, September 9, 1985.

Measures described in the plan pertain to waters of the Federal Conservation Zone (FCZ), as outlined in the Magnuson Fisheries Management Act of 1976. The FCZ covers U.S. waters from three miles offshore to 200 miles offshore. Striped bass are generally considered an inshore species that for the most part migrates north-south within a narrow zone just off the beach. However, in recent decades, we have come to appreciate that in some areas, and in some seasons, schools of bass may be encountered some distance off the beach. Several examples can be pinpointed to illustrate this point. Evidence suggests that there are substantial numbers of striped bass well offshore in the New York Bight area in late fall, and there is also a large body of fish well off North Carolina shores.

Most of those who attended the public hearing expressed concerns over the effects of the plan on their life-styles and income levels. Montauk charter captains expressed concern that the plan would erode their annual gross business, with some estimates putting the loss at 30 percent. Baymen balked over the proposed closed season (Oct. 1st to May 31st) stating the closure might be the final blow to put haul seiners out of business. There was also concern about the 26 inch minimum size.

Tom Knobel of the East Hampton Town Baymen's Association said the fall run of bass for haul seiners would be eliminated by the proposed closed season. Baymen urged a closed summer season as preferable to a fall closure, but management scientists questioned later indicated a summer closure would be meaningless since there are relatively few bass in our inshore waters at that time.

Joe McBride of the Montauk Captains Association voiced the opinion that the tenets of the plan would quickly become state law, too.

Jason Colby, a transported western pinhooker, argued that harvest restrictions were unnecessary since acid rain was the major cause for the decline of striped bass populations along the Coast.

Warren Hader, a New York delegate to the Mid-Atlantic Council, stated that he has fought the plan in its present form.

A recent public hearing drew opposing views concerning federal striper management. Some felt the plan would set a precedent for state bass regulations.

A well-known fisherman interviewed after the hearing said; "We simply can't manage a fishery that is literally on the road to extinction and at the same time expect to maintain the same yearly catches. We can't continue business as usual. It doesn't make sense. Obviously, if there are fewer fish and the fishery is in trouble, then we will have to curtail harvests. It's about time these people put the fish first and their pocketbooks second."

Although Fred Schwab, New York State citizen delegate to the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission, striped bass project, was ill and unable to attend the hearing, we did speak with him later. Mr. Schwab thought that two of the three key elements of the federal plan were not impressive. A 26 inch minimum and a 40 inch maximum, one per day, for hook and line fishermen, will not do much to conserve the fishery in this state, he said, because we have a dirty fishery. Otter trawls and haul seines, primarily, will kill small fish, and there is a history that the users of this gear are willing to kill 100 subsized fish if they believe there is one or two marketable bass in the net. The October 1st to May 31st closed season, on the other hand, is important because it will discourge targeting bass during that time period. This may be especially important during the winter off North Carolina where dragging from bass can be productive. He expressed the view that passage of the federal plan would put pressure on the states to follow suit with a closed season, and Mr. Schwab believes this would be significant as a measure to preserve the remaining East Coast stocks. He said: "I believe, frankly, that the entire fishery should be shut down along the coast for everyone."

A number of interested scientists and citizens pointed out that a difference between federal and state regulations might make for enforcement problems. They, for the most part, expressed the hope that states would expand their current regulations both to further conserve stocks and to make federal and state regulations more consistent.

Mr. Gordon Colvin, director of the DEC's Division of Marine and Coastal Resources, was also unable to attend the hearing but was available for comments later in the week. He tried to assuage concerns that New York State would follow suit should the federal plan be enacted, but some commercial and recreational fishermen were not soothed by his comment. Other officials expressed the opinion that the Mid-Atlantic Council's Plan would most likely be changed as a result of the comments at the hearing, to which conservation minded citizens attending the hearing said: "Sure, they complain about money and the plan is changed. Funny, the Council wasn't so quick to change the Bluefish Plan even when large crowds demonstrated with real data that the plan was out of line. I guess some user groups get preferential treatment."

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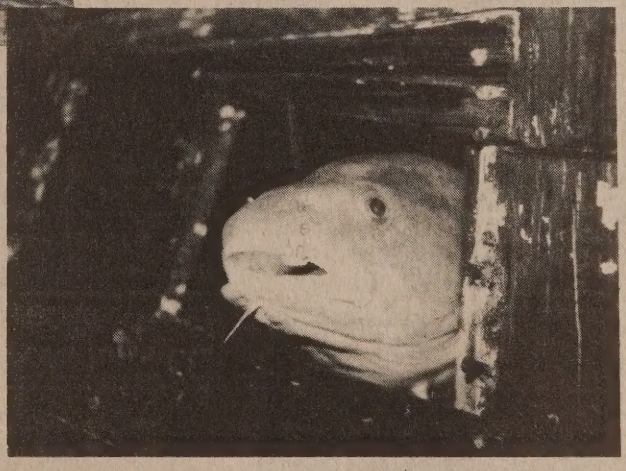

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★ FISHERMAN INTERVIEW ★

NELSON POTTER

by Art Michaels

Nelson Potter is director of the Bureau of Marine and Recreational Vehicles in the New York State Office of Parks and Recreation.

As chief boating law administrator of the State of New York, what are your primary responsibilities and jurisdiction?

Our most important function is that we serve as New York State's liaison between the Coast Guard and other states through the National Association of State Boating Law Administrators and the Northeastern States Boating Law Administrators Conference.

This involves communication and cooperation with the two Coast Guard districts that split New York: the 9th District out of Cleveland and the 3rd District out of New York City. In both cases, I work frequently with the chiefs in charge of boating safety as well as the Aids to Navigation staffs and Operations Groups.

The overriding aspect of our relationship is the agreement with the Coast Guard that each state makes concerning law enforcement, boating safety education, aids to navigation, and so forth. The Coast Guard has primary law enforcement responsibility in concurrent waters. The state, through its subdivisions, has primary responsibility for recreational boating safety. The state is also responsible for navigation aids that are used primarily by pleasure boaters. The Coast Guard is responsible for navigation aids used primarily for interstate and foreign commerce.

We're also responsible for training law enforcement officers in marine applications. Similarly, we're required to have an accident reporting system that's compatible with the Coast Guard's procedures and standards.

Describe the state boating education program.

For one aspect, New York State law requires successful completion of our boating safety course for anyone between the ages of 10 and 16 who wants to operate a boat without an adult or without another person present who's taken the course. The program is some 20 years old—it's one of the oldest programs in the country and the first in the northeast U.S.

Those who complete the course are awarded a certificate, but more importantly, they're educated to be safer boaters.

How do you feel about a boat operator license?

We've been torn between opposing it on some grounds and favoring it for possible advantages. If it results in safer boat operation, we'd favor it, but statistics show that a licensing procedure doesn't necessarily lead to a reduction in the number of boating accidents.

In addition, if we went ahead with an operator license program, we'd have tourism problems with free movement by boaters from other states that don't have licensing programs. So my agency was on record as opposing the licensing bills introduced in our state's last legislative session and will continue to be opposed unless the Coast Guard or the National Association of State Boating Law Administrators leads the way on a national program.

Although Governor Cuomo, however, has never been reluctant to lead the way on safety programs as shown by New York's Seat Belt Law, available statistics do not show that licensing leads necessarily to fewer accidents. Improved education and enforcement of existing laws, however, lowered our 1984 accident rate dramatically. Our Commissioner Orin Lehman will be reviewing agency proposals this year to submit to the governor for the enhancement of boating safety in the state.

Who patrols New York State waterways and concurrent waters like Long Island Sound and the Atlantic Ocean?

Several agencies patrol the area. On Long Island, you have the NYPD, which covers waters under city jurisdiction, and you have Nassau and Suffolk County Police Department marine divisions, which are fairly large organizations. On Long Island, police officers issue over 4,000 summonses for violations and routinely inspect more than 5,000 vessels per year.

In addition, on the eastern end of Long Island, townships have marine law enforcement functions.

What about a drunk boat operator law in New York?

Right now, the law is antiquated and presents enforcement problems. Courts don't seem to enforce a law like this because the law says basically only that it's illegal to operate a boat while intoxicated. Very few arrests are successfully prosecuted under this law because enforcement standards are questionable.

Nevertheless, in the last state legislature—it passed the state senate—we had a boating while intoxicated bill that closely resembles the driving while intoxicated law. This bill provides better enforcement standards and would require you to take a Blood Aocohol Content Test or you could have a fine levied against you and lose your operator privilege for one year. Convictions under this new law provide for fines and/or imprisonment. We are confident that we will be able to get it passed in 1986.

What are the most pressing problems and needs in The Fisherman readership area?

Better law enforcement. Boating safety education can go only so far; we can't reach everyone.

What can fishermen themselves do to improve the safety of the waters?

They can report those who they suspect of breaking the law to local authorities. We often don't hear about a problem until people have been involved in an accident. Perhaps reporting the bad boating habits of others to the proper authorities could prevent accidents and injuries as long as the action were educational rather than punitive. In some cases, however, the only thing that works is law enforcement, but we look upon an arrest as the final step in educating the public, rather than as an end in itself.

Still, the majority of accidents aren't caused by inexperienced boaters. The irony is that the typical boater involved in an accident often has considerable experience. The problem is often operator inattention while under way. About 40 percent of all the accidents are the result of a collision of some kind—with another boat, with a fixed object, and so forth.

One of the major thrusts of our programs is to get boaters to wear a PFD (personal flotation device), not just have the life jacket available.

This aspect is crucial because

fatalities are most often caused not by collisions themselves, but by falling in the water or capsizing—ending up in the water when the boater wasn't prepared for an emergency.

When a person buys a boat registration in New York, where does the money go?

The state was actually losing money on boat registrations. Fees were introduced in the 1960s, and the costs were never raised. It cost only $3 to register a boat of less than 16 feet for three years. Boats of 16 feet to less than 26 feet cost $6 for the same period, and boats of 26 feet and longer cost $10 to register for three years.

Half this amount goes into the General Fund, and because the Department of Motor Vehicles estimates that it costs over $2 to register a boat, what with paperwork and so forth, that doesn't leave much money for programs. The other half goes to localities to support Navigation Law Enforcement and Safety Patrols.

Is there a new boat registration bill afoot?

Yes. It was just passed and triples the fees. In addition, however, the new law mandates titling and anti-theft programs.

Are there any plans to improve or add fishing piers and increase access?

In the state park system, we're concerned with incompatible uses of the waterfront—fishing as opposed to jet skiing, for instance. The problems of access stem from the fact that the laws were passed during times when we didn't have this kind of varied demand.

Another problem is that the barrier beaches on Long Island, Jones Beach and Robert Moses state parks, for instance, are extremely fragile ecologically. The barrier beach was supported actually by hand-planting the grasses to prevent further erosion. We can't control Mother Nature, but we have to do our best to prevent the wearing down of the beaches by other activities.

What can enthusiasts do to gain access to beaches and to keep the beaches open that are already acessible?

We are not prone to make decisions of policy based on a few complaint letters. We have to weigh requests against the laws and against what the majority of people want. Frankly, I see a lot of conflict brewing in the future. On Long Island, you have the ATVers in conflict with those who want the areas reserved for nonmotorized uses. These groups are vocal, and each has much clout. The focus will be in the legislature and in the governor's office.

What else can you tell Fisherman readers about increasing bridge access for fishing and building piers?

The problem here is not the fishermen—it's traffic control. If you open those areas, you cause an immediate traffic problem on the water as well as near the access site. You actually need a fair amount of land to provide a new access site.

Nelson Potter manning an exhibit booth.

What can anglers do to open more areas for fishing?

They can join organizations that advocate increased access. In addition, get in touch with our people in the area. Your readers may see something on our Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan that pleases them—something of which they've been so far unaware. For instance, the plan projects a growth in access needs of over 30 percent in the Long Island-New York City area by the year 2000, and New York State must react to this need.

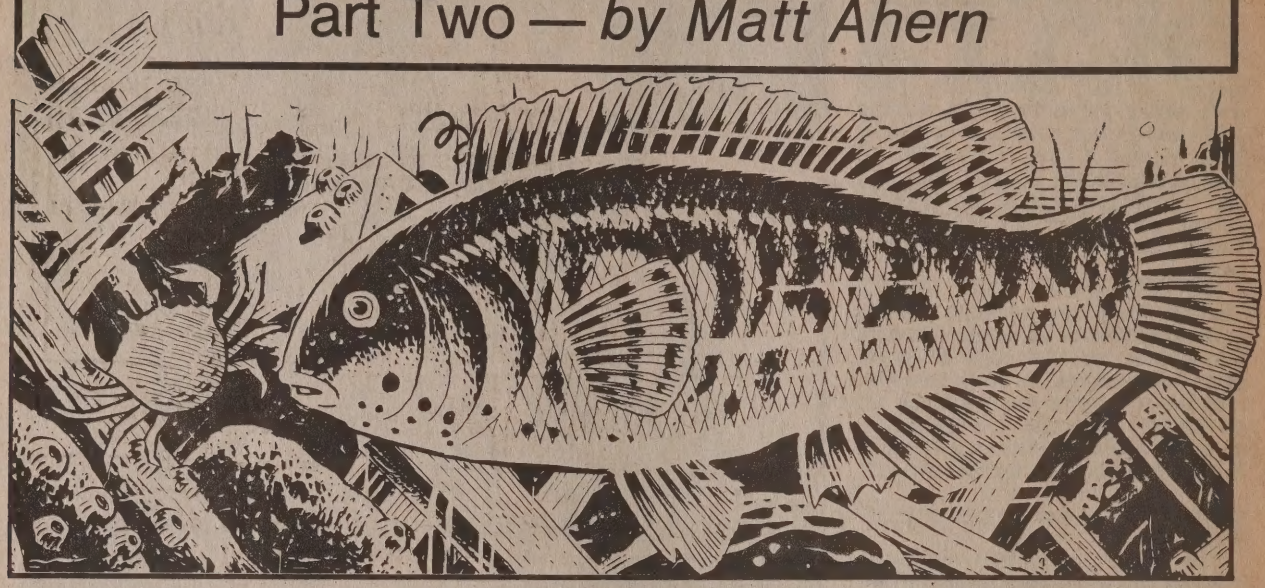
The problem in recent years has not been the money for development. The problem is operational and maintenance costs, so we now have a long-term program basically to rehabilitate what we already have. At Jones Beach, for instance, we are involved in a multi-million dollar program to rehabilitate one of our most important facilities that has needed it for at least 20 years. This is basic stuff—just keeping the roofs from leaking and replacing tiles that park visitors could stumble over.

For the last few years, New York's program needs have varied. The state tries to prevent one program from thriving at a much higher level than others when some other programs are determined to be in great need. At this point, for example, the state thinks that the major thrust needs to go into Corrections, so that area is expanding greatly now, and other programs are pretty much on hold.

We have a limited budget—no specially earmarked funds, and we don't get a large fluctuation of income from year to year—if anything, our revenues decrease. It's up to us to establish priorities within these very limiting parameters.

NO EASY MARK

Part Two — *by Matt Ahern*



I mentioned last week, my preference for 20 lb. mono over the heavier stuff when blackfishing and promised to explain why. The reason isn't earth-shattering, but is something I feel is only plain common sense—particularly if you fish the way I do.

As we know, blackfish are found around submerged obstructions: wrecks, rocks, and so forth. The peculiar thing about this, though, is that the worse these obstructions are, the better your chances of hooking larger fish (most pool winners come from such areas). This also means that fishermen doing so are going to get hung-up more frequently than the guys fishing "safer" spots. This is one of the fishing facts facing hunters of large blackfish.

When snagging does happen (and it will if you're fishing prime blackfish territory), I find the chances of freeing the rig are about two in ten. Therefore, with the odds always against salvaging the rig, it makes sense to use 20 pound test mono and waste no time breaking off the rig once the situation appears hopeless. The idea is to spend your time fishing—not fuming over snagged rigs. Few blackfish are caught on fouled rigs—although occasionally one will pull you out; in which case you become the fair-haired boy of the fishing gods.

Twenty pound test mono is easily parted, but if you've ever attempted to free snagged 30 or 40 pound test line, you know how difficult and time consuming it can be. Because the sinker is most likely to foul, some fishermen tie it to the line with a piece of weak string—which is okay, I suppose, if you care to spend the extra time required to do it. And if the day is bone-chilling? No thanks. I'd rather spend the time fishing.

I mentioned using double-overhand knots when making loops in the main line. I rarely recommend this particular knot because of its cutting action under strain. But in this instance, there was a method to my madness. And I also promised to tell you why I believed this to be a good knot to use in those sticky places.

That same cutting action which makes a double-overhand knot one to avoid most times, can be made to work for the benefit of the fisherman. It enables him, in conjunction with the 20 pound test mono, to quickly break off the sinker or hook at the knot, and without strain or pain, saving much time, and quite often part of the rig.

Now, all this goes without saying that you should use no gadgets when making up blackfishing rigs. But even so, many novice fishermen fall victim to store-bought rigs which are meant to catch fishermen—not fish. (One manufacturer told me he knows his rigs will prove disappointing, but how can he get his selling price with two simple hooks rigged tandem style? How, indeed.) Therefore, use no hardware when making up blackfish rigs. Gadgets quickly foul, defeating their purpose. Any experienced blackfisherman will tell you that if you're not being hung up from time to time, you aren't fishing in the right place. True enough—but why go out of your way to do so?

Because the art of blackfishing is considered to be a specialized form of angling, some clever, long-ago fisherman designed a unique hook to make it easier for his fellow anglers. I don't know to what lengths this unknown gentleman went to, but I do know he came up with the perfect hook for old chisel-tooth.

This hook, called the Virginia, is extra strong, with a short-biting, offset hollow barb and point. It is **the** hook to use whenever possible. All tackle shops carry them, so you should have no trouble. Use size 4 or 5 in the deeper, offshore waters, and a #6 or #8 for inshore, shallow areas.

If need be, fishermen can substitute regular-shanked Sproat, Eagle Claw or Beak hooks in appropriate sizes. However, no hook puts blackfish in the bucket as easily as the Virginia style, so consider that trio only in emergencies.

Sinkers are no problem. The bank style is best because its tear-shape enables it to slide past obstructions which would snag a diamond or other flat-sided sinker. Weight will vary, depending on where the fishing is done, strength of current, and so forth.

One thing of importance while we're on the subject of sinkers. They must be heavy enough to hold bottom without moving off. Blackfish are wily cusses—particularly the larger ones. I have found them extremely suspicious of bait which moves unnaturally. This is especially true when skimmer is used. I know that I'll probably get flack because of my thoughts on the matter, but all I can say is that after more than a half century of blackfishing, I know this works for me—and of course it will for you, too—which is simply to keep that bait still if you want your share of blackfish.

Now we come to that bane of all blackfishermen: the bergall. I don't know how to explain this animated nuisance, except to say that it is an industrious bait thief without peer.

To consistently catch blackfish, one must learn to distinguish between the rapid-fire nip of the bergall and the much heavier tap of the blackfish,

which I assure you isn't easy. To overcome the bergall's larcenous behavior, on-the-spot experience and "feel" are required. No one can teach this, except to commiserate and add that patience, an even temperament, and a willingness to forego four-letter words are prime requisites.

Bergalls do have their good points, though. They indicate that blackfish are somewhere on the grounds selected. Rarely does one find one without the other close by.

Should you be receiving bergall bites and they suddenly cease, it can mean one of two things. Either your bait is gone, or a black is homing in on the easy pickings found by the bergall. Either way you'll find out. I guess you might say that crackerjack sinker bouncers have learned to live with our multi-colored friend. Therefore, if you wish to see your blackfish catch increase, it is important that you do so too.

Crab bait is preferred in fall and early winter. This can be in the form of china-back fiddlers or green crab (my personal choice). Green crab should be prepared carefully. Remove the top shell and cut off the legs close to the body; then cut into pieces, usually two or four, depending upon crab size.

The point and barb are run through at one of the leg joints and allowed to protrude from the opposite side. Don't worry: blackfish never notice. Fiddlers are delicate, so handle carefully. Remove the large claw (if it is a male), and insert the hook through the body. You can also allow the point to peek through if you wish, but fiddlers live longer if the hook is kept inside.

Because of the black's feeding method, hooking can be difficult. Recall the frustrated fisherman at the beginning of this article. Novice fishermen should refrain from flailing away at bergalls and concentrate on that expected heavy tug, which signifies that a blackfish has taken the hook. This is the instant to rear back on the fish—hard! You've got to get that fish started away from the obstruction before it realizes what has happened.

Failure to do this usually means a lost blackfish, plus the terminal tackle it has succeeded in snagging while making its getaway. Even if the black is solidly hooked, the chances are good that the fouled rig will cost you the fish. Waiting out a snagged black in hopes that it will swim free sometimes works—but don't count on it!

That's enough about blackfishing until the next time.

But before I go, I'll leave you with this pearl of wisdom from a long-gone buddy as we discussed the general pros and cons of fishing: "If you have need for a lamp, be sure you supply it with oil." And this certainly applies not only to our up and coming blackfishermen, but to all of us who wish to excel at our chosen sport.

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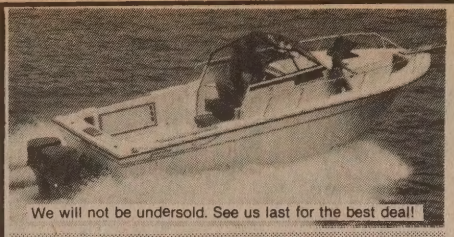

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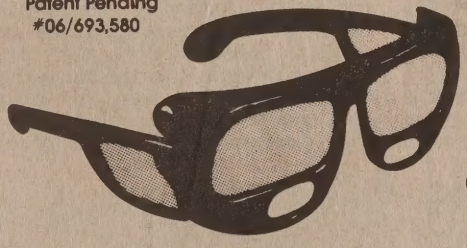

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GORILLA-GATORS DAY AND NIGHT

by Tom Schlichter

The biggest kind of blues will continue to wear out anglers well into November on Long Island's east end.

Anne Hutchinson appeared to be hanging onto her rod for dear life as she turned to me and grimaced. "I don't know if I'm pulling him in or he's pulling me over," she laughed. Hooked into a chopper blue of my own, I glanced over to nod in agreement and noticed Roger Evans in the background, straining with all his might to keep his fish from running the length of the port side and tangling several lines. He had come aboard the Viking Star that night to "relax!"

Having set sail at about 7:10 PM, the night was still young for the paying patrons and crew of the big party boat. We had, in fact, just passed the mid-point of the trip and already people were placing their rods in holders to take a quick break from the action. Arms fatigued from battling Montauk's famous "gorilla blues," most anglers had quit counting after landing four or five fish.

At the start of the night, most of the anglers on the boat had begun by lowering chunks of butterfish or herring 80 feet to the bottom. But somewhere down the line, someone discovered that the fish were so thick, that even a diamond jig, fished in the darkness, didn't stand a chance of making it to the surface unmolested. Within half an hour, virtually everybody had switched to jigging so that they would not need to "bother" baiting up.

Such is the intensity of the bluefish run in the waters of the Atlantic Ocean off of Montauk Point, that this scene is repeated night after night from mid-August through November. Usually, I try to stay away from giving any location a "can't miss" tag. It always seems that when I do that the fish decide to move on. But at Montauk, it's not really taking any chances to say that the daily fishing borders on the phenomenal. In 10 years of party boat fishing for blues here, I've yet to come home with less than three fish and eight to twelve fish would be a conservative estimate of my average. You've got to figure that any place where you can almost count on catching blues on jigs at night has got to be Mecca!

A look at some of the names used to describe the blues that stop over here on their way further south will give you an indication as to the size fish we are talking about. Terms most commonly employed include: gorillas, gators and, of course, for real big ones, gorilla-gators. We're talking choppers in the 8 to 12 lb. range as being average and 17 lb. plus fish having a difficult time copping the

It takes a hefty chopper to settle the pool on these trips.

pool! If you've already been out there, you know what I'm talking about. If you've yet to give it a shot, you're in for a real treat.

Due to the intensity with which these bruisers fight, as well as to their large size, you'll have to go with pretty sturdy gear when party boating. Even with a cod stick and 4/0 reel, it can be difficult to control a blue of these proportions. I generally fish with a 7½ foot cod stick and 4/0 Penn Senator spooled full of 40 lb. test. You can get by, though, with a smaller rod and a reel such as the Penn Jigmaster. Just make certain that, whatever you use, the drag is smooth (as it is on these reels) and set a little below the line's breaking point. Spinning reels are next to useless when bluefishing in this manner as they do not offer the control afforded by conventional gear; so leave them home please. If you do not have suitable tackle amongst your personal arsenal, you can always rent a setup ($2 to $5 depending on which boat you sail), to get the job done.

Most anglers employ lines testing in the 40 to 50 lb. class, but once in awhile someone slips on board with 30 lb. gear. Take my advice, stick with 40 lb. test, because you will really have to put the brakes to these fish on occasion and the lighter line will not always hold up.

Day trips usually entail diamond jigging with tube tailed lures such as the Ava 47. (At the time of this writing, only the Viking Star is sailing for day blues and this is a combination trip with cod. This schedule may change as the season wears on, however; so give a call to confirm sailing times.) As with bluefish jigging elsewhere, the tube is free-spooled to the bottom, the reel engaged, and the lure cranked toward the surface as quickly as possible. The faster you crank, the more enraged those "gorillas" seem to become. Don't worry about reeling too fast because you can't. If a blue decides he wants your lure, there is just no way to take it away from him! Somewhere between the bottom and the top, a fish is likely to catch up with that jig and when he does it will feel like the lure suddenly was stopped by a brick wall. Should your line stop too soon to have hit bottom, assume that it has been picked up and set that hook immediately!

During the course of a trip, you'll lose as many fish as you catch, even if you are quite experienced. Many of these fish are lost because fishermen "pump" when they reel. Because of this pumping motion, the weighted jig drops below the fish's jaw, pulling the hook out. Keeping steady pressure on the fish and trying to reel at a constant rate will definitely improve your score.

Night fishing for blues is usually a baitfishing affair, although this season has been so good that many anglers have utilized jigs with just as much success. For the baitfishermen, herring, butterfish, or bunker chunks are impaled on an 8/0 O'Shaughnessy style hook attached to a drail by a 4 to 6 inch length of chain. The chain is absolutely necessary to defeat those vicious teeth. This setup is lowered all the way to the bottom (if it makes it that far without getting picked up) and raised up 5 to 7 cranks of the reel handle. Just hold your bait there for a minute or so and sure enough a strike will follow. Jigs are worked in the same style as day fishing, only the retrieve is slowed to a crawl.

Take your time when reeling these fish to the surface. There are plenty of fish to be had and bringing up a green or still feisty blue will only get you involved in tangles. When you hook into a real monster, it is sometimes advisable to follow the fish around the boat to keep from crossing lines. Courtesy goes a long way here toward making a trip enjoyable. If an angler is hooked up and working his way down the side of the boat, lift your rod over or under his so that he can get by. If, when you get the fish to the surface, it appears larger than 8 lbs., call for the gaff. Smaller fish may be hoisted over the rail, very carefully, if the boat is not crowded. Don't make the mistake of trying to lift a fish that is too heavy for your tackle. I did that earlier this year and it cost me a jig, the fish, and the pool! If there is any doubt in your mind, wait for the mate to give you a hand.

It's a good idea to check your line for abrasions after EVERY fish as the teeth, scales and fight of these fish will scrape and skin your line from time to time during the night. If you feel any nicks, take the extra minute to retie your rig. Failing to do so will ensure its loss and you can then note that "I told you so." No matter how careful you are, it's likely that you will lose a rig or two a night, so either bring enough money to buy new ones on the boat or else bring your own extras.

As long as they are not too busy, the mates will usually take care of unhooking your fish on these boats, but if you have to do it yourself, be careful of those teeth. A fish this big can take off a finger with a single bite. By the way, as long as we are speaking of mates, be sure to leave them a little something at the end of your trip if you are satisfied with their service (a 15 percent tip is customary). These fellas work especially hard during bluefish season and earn every penny they are given by making your trip safe and enjoyable.

The "gorilla" bluefish season is in full swing right now and will continue through October as long as there are enough fishermen to make sailing profitable. The fish will be there regardless until early November. If the idea of matching brute strength with one of the strongest and most reckless species in our inshore waters appeals to you, now is the time to go. So get on the phone and check those sailing times to make sure that you don't miss the chance to battle a "gorilla-gator" this fall!

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NORTH BAR REVIVAL

by John Fritz

This heralded Montauk surf spot is once again showing signs of its old self.

In seasons past, North Bar was second only to the Lighthouse in the number of surf casters it attracted. In its heyday, the Bar sported a double picket line of anglers. Those wearing the conventional waders and top were strung out along the shore, straddling the point, while those in wet suits, barely visible in the darkness, clustered along a narrow rise of bottom slightly west of the point. As we all know, few structures are permanent when washed by the open sea and true to form, a particularly severe coastal storm radically altered the configuration of this once prized fishing area. Subsequent to the storm many Montauk regulars drifted a bit east and congregated along the now more prominent False Bar.

Back when the schools of striped bass were much more abundant, the rip which formed on the ebbing tide was a sight to quicken the hearts of many a plug caster. North Bar was the focal point of many Montauk surf fishermen; both tourists and regulars alike. This was particularly true of those who shunned the hazards associated with fishing under the Light, while hard working surfmen frequented both areas. When the tides were cooperative it was possible to fish through the night; catching the flood at the Light and the ebb at North Bar.

The solid wall of buggies and pick-up campers has been absent for several years, but pleasant memories die hard and beach fishermen continued to drift back to the Bar in hopes of recapturing something from the past. In '83 several wet suiters were rewarded with an impressive catch of bass taken in extremely harsh conditions late in the season. The following year saw a few of the regulars try their luck much earlier in the fall. Word of their success trickled out until the late October nights were reminiscent of yesteryear, with surf casters lined up from deep within Clark's Cove almost to False Bar.

In contrast to earlier years, when a major portion of the action took place directly off the point where the rip was the strongest, the realigned bottom structure produced a goodly share of fish deep in Clark's Cove. Here, after the tide has dropped off a few hours, a handful of anglers, clad in wet suits, queue up on the ridge of a small rise, about half a cast from those lined up along the shore. Those unable to join this select group form the picket line which initially sets up near the point and extends to either side. The further one is forced into the cove the greater the likelihood of entangling the lines of the wet suiters out front. In addition, a fish hooked here will generally run right or downtide, a maneuver which will quickly take it around the point. If an angler in such a position tries to remain stationary, his line will soon angle across the bodies of those downtide. If is imperative for the angler fighting the fish to move quickly in the direction of travel. Once the corner at the point has been turned, further pursuit

is less critical but common courtesy dictates that the angler pass down the line and play his fish after he has cleared the last man. It is sad to say but fish have been lost, lines have been cut, and plugs have been confiscated when the above procedure was not followed. Not all surf fishermen are willing to excuse a thoughtless angler, as a taut line suddenly stretches across his face.

For an angler clad in a wet suit to take off in pursuit of a fish is a simple matter. If he remains chest deep in the water, the depth provides a certain amount of stability as he is carried along with the tide over mussel beds, pot holes, and slippery grapefruit sized rocks. A fall matters little, as provided he keeps his line taut and does not allow the fish to escape. An angler in waders, on the other hand, embarking on a similar jaunt must travel at a slower pace or chance losing his footing and be subject to all the dire consequences that could entail. Felt soled waders, or better yet, cleated rubbers or sandals, will greatly increase the ability to maintain your balance in moving around this irregular bottom.

This lateral movement, in pursuit of a hooked fish, is not the only position change undertaken in a night's fishing. The advance seaward, as the water level recedes, is obvious, just how far is dependent on the inclination of the wet suiters. In most instances, they are sympathetic with the limitations imposed upon those wearing waders and they will attempt to keep a straight line even though the more distant parts of the rip could be reached if they pushed further out.

During the course of the ebb tide, knowledgeable anglers will jockey about in an effort to work the rip to the best advantage. The first signs of the rip appears directly off the point, maybe a shade to the right if one were facing Shagwong. The night's activities usually begin here with the cast being aimed on a line with the rip, the lure is then allowed to swing right as it is slowly worked ashore. As the tide gains momentum the force of the rip increases, requiring the caster to compensate and direct his cast more and more to the left. When the tide is under a full head of steam, the latter stage of the retrieve has the plug almost parallel to the shore and at a point where it endangers those fishing downtide. In order to avoid complications and since so few fish are taken after the plug has swung so far ashore, it is wise to hurry the retrieve before it fouls someone down the line. This is also a time when some anglers will relinquish their place in line and attempt to secure a place on the bar deep inside Clark's Cove. This jockeying about for a better position can put a strain on relations with those about you. This is especially true when a large number of anglers make prime space scarce. The unwritten rule permits an angler to leave his place in line when landing a fish or performing necessary equipment repair. A jaunt along the beach in search of something better or a break for cofeee does not ensure a place in line upon return. Naturally, if one has buddies willing to make room, the need for such considerations is eliminated.

The need for sturdy tackle when fishing under conditions such as these should be evident. In addition, the fish are frequently of bragging proportions with long casts necessary more often than not. The standard 11 foot surf stick, comparable to the old Lamiglass 1163 is ideally suited for this type of fishing. Large capacity spinning reels, the Penn 706, for instance, spooled with 20 lb. test Ande is the accepted substitute if the Crack 300 is unavailable. A loose drag is not appropriate when cow bass are sought in currents racing so swiftly seaward, a smoothly operating drag is imperative. When wading into water waist deep or greater, the task of keeping the reel above water is useless. In fact, most anglers don't even try. A reel subjected to such conditions will inevitably coat the drag washers with salt deposits thereby inhibiting the uniform operation of the drag. When using a reel with a complicated drag system, such as the Penn, routine maintenance is vital.

For decades, the mainstay of the Montauk surf was the Gibbs darter. The Gibbs casting swimmer and in more recent years the Super Strike line of these same type of plugs have made minor inroads on this monopoly. The past few years has seen a radical change in the makeup of a Montauk surfman's plug bag. While darters continue to maintain a place in the bag, their space is limited to one or two token plugs. In its place has come the Needlefish plug. Last year the most popular color was green; in some instances adorned with a single, green feathered tail hook in place of the treble which is standard equipment on the Gibbs plug. The color green held no monopoly on taking striped bass though. Plugs painted either white or yellow also produced fish as did the slightly different design of the through wired Needlefish, produced by Don Musso of Super Strike. Although quite rare in the fall of '84, production difficulties should be overcome this year, thereby ensuring an adequate supply of the new plastic Super Strike Needlefish.

An unsuspecting buggy operator slowly winding his way west along the contours of a seemingly deserted shore will be startled as he manipulates that final turn before North Bar. The blinding beam of the vehicle's headlights will illuminate a scene reminiscent of days of old. The sudden switch to total darkness, as the headlights are quickly killed by a reflex action, may make him wonder if that vision was real. Hopefully, the good fishing will continue this year and return North Bar to its esteemed position high on the list of prime fishing areas on the Eastern Seaboard.

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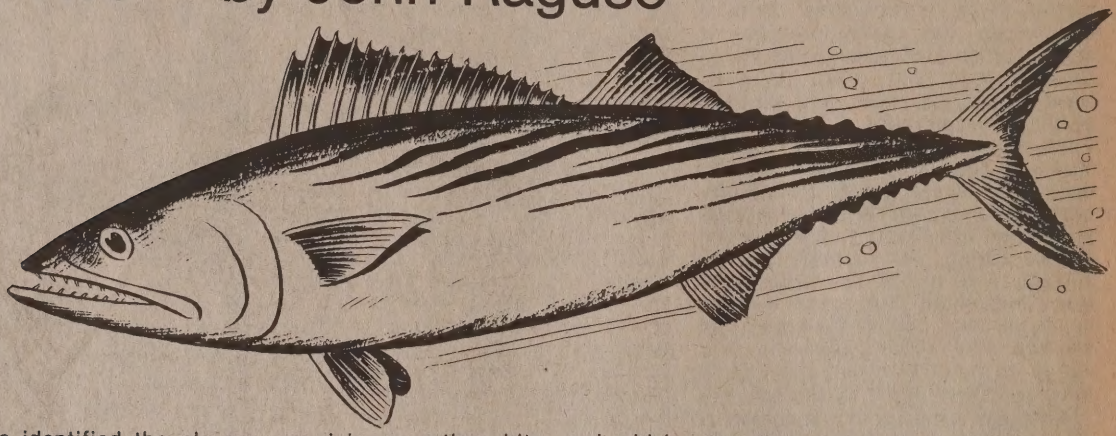
KICKING OFF THE FOOTBALL SEASON

Part Two — by John Raguso



Last week we identified the players that participate in this fall sport. Now, let's delve into some of the techniques that you can use to coax the fall footballs to the business end of your line. Trolling is one of the most sure fire methods at your disposal on a private craft that is not possible on a party boat and it allows you to cover a lot of water in search of productive spots. Even though the offshore grounds oftentimes dictate the use of large lures, the inshore fishery is different. You've heard the old saying of "match the hatch?" Well, presenting your quarry with what appears to be natural forage consistent with the surrounding environment is one of the prime ingredients to success. If the tuna are stuffing themselves with sand eels or baby butterfish, they are most likely to ignore anything that doesn't resemble this. So if you insist on dragging your 15 inch glow-in-the-dark Kona heads inshore, expect to have a few dry spells between hook-ups. Classical favorites such as the Jap feathers and cedar jigs are the prudent choice for your initial lure spread, since these consistent producers have proven their worth over the course of decades of use.

Feathers in the 3/4 to 2 oz. range in either black/white, red/white or green/yellow should fill the bill nicely. The traditional rig uses about 6 feet of single strand #10 coffee colored stainless wire tied to a 4/0 to 6/0 needle eye forged hook. However, don't be restricted by this setup and feel free to experiment. Since the wire has a tendency to kink after a fish or two, we've evolved to using 6 feet of 125 lb. mono leader tied to a 5/0 stainless steel Siwash hook. To this we slip a 1 oz. egg sinker under the skirt and the finished product is a durable lure that will last all season, surviving countless hits, and which also stays down in the water during faster trolling speeds or rough water due to the extra weight.

Cedar jigs in the 3 to 6 inch length, in both red and white and natural should also get some attention from the footballs. You'll have to be a little more creative to rig a mono leader with these lures, since the sticks preclude the use of knots due to their narrow tube openings. We circumvent this problem by crimping the same 125 lb. mono leader to needle-eye hooks which will slide into the jig's rear opening. As a final touch, by coating the jig with a clear polymer rod finish, you'll get many seasons of use out of the cedars before they start to deteriorate.

When using these lures, you'll want to keep a pair close to your boat's transom in the white water. The second wave is about right and you'll find that by employing flatline clips, the lures will really stay down in the fish-producing zone and undulate in a tantalizing fashion that the tuna will find irresistible. These clips can either be store-bought or homemade out of wooden clothespins, a rubber band and a few feet of clothesline. I've used both and either will do the job. Obviously, the commercial quality clips like the Aftco Roller Trollers will let you adjust the length of your dropback without disconnecting the setup, and this is a convenience.

There is a place for the larger tuna lures, but we usually relegate ourselves to trolling either a Green Machine or Silver Bullet psychobead lure deep down the middle of the spread, about 100 yards behind the boat. Occasionally we'll coax a small yellowfin or bluefin tuna to inhale this offering and false albacore have been known to hit them as well, but you'll find most of your action on the interior lures.

Chumming would be the same as that described in the party boat tuna article that was published by The Fisherman a few weeks ago. For those of you who might have missed this, the technique dictates that you first start with a bunker chum slick and then augment this beacon with either a handful of spearing, chopped butterfish, herring or bunker every few minutes or so. Tempting the footballs is not quite like giant fishing in that you shouldn't chunk and chum too heavily, for fear of keeping the tuna too far back in your slick, being content to gobble up the free meal and spurning your baits. Just how much to dole out will come with experience: too little and you won't hold the fish and too much and they'll lay back in the chum line. Once you're on the hook over a likely spot and the chum begins to take effect, it's time to get the baits in the water.

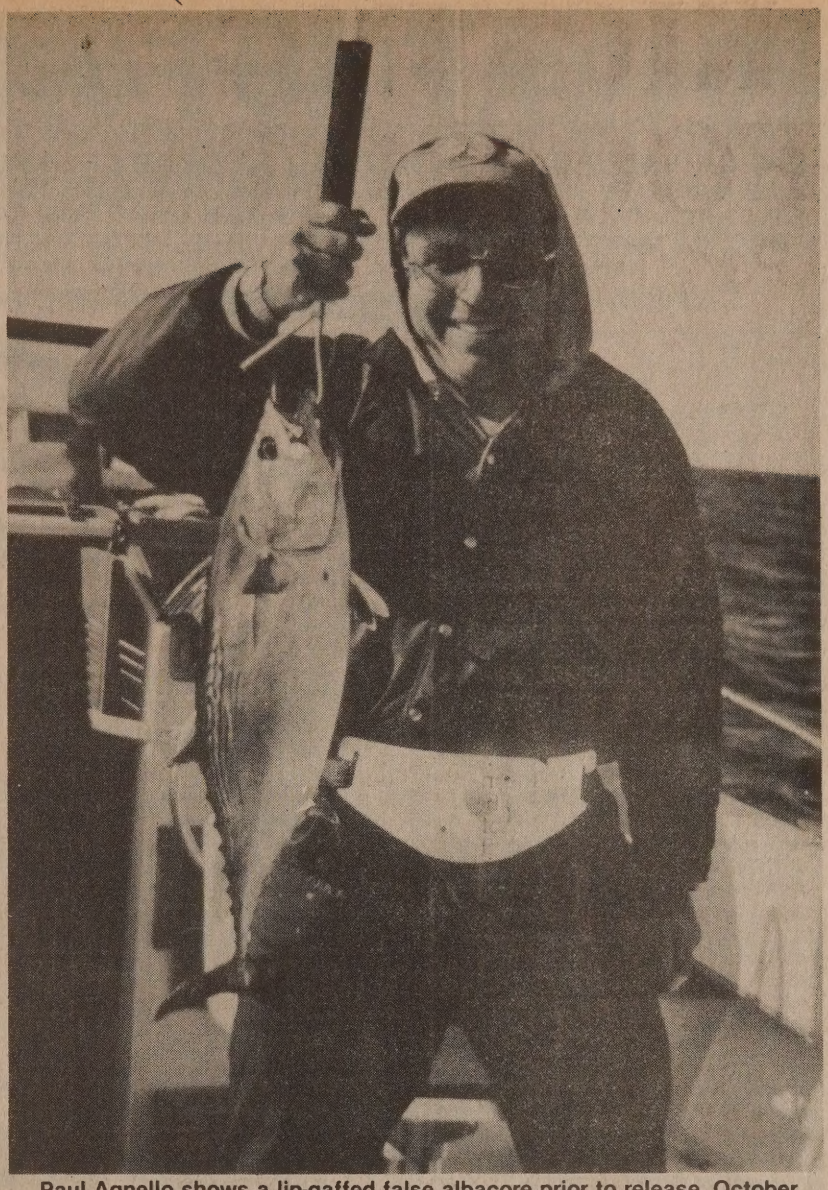
Before we pursue the topic of bait any further, let's discuss the concept of anchoring. At the risk of oversimplifying a detailed subject, in order to be successful in this form of tuna fishing, you must be able to hold your position over a desirable piece of bottom. Having the right size anchor and chain and enough rode (anchor line) is critical to accomplish this task. A 4-1 ratio of line to depth is the minimum scope you should employ and using an oversize anchor certainly would improve your chances to stay put. Another thought to consider is the relationship of the wreck to your anchored position. If you're chumming, you want to be slightly ahead of the structure so that the tide will carry your offering down to the fish, who will probably be patrolling the wreck on its downtide side. This fact cannot

be overemphasized, as I've fished certain wrecks and scored heavily while other boats were only a few hundred yards away just defrosting a lot of bait.

Speaking of bait, large spearing or sand eels, small tinker mackerel and baby butterfish all get the nod for initial menu selections. Chopped pieces of bunker or herring would be a viable fall-back position. Once you've made your choice, rig the offering to a 3/0 to 5/0 bronzed #94150 Mustad tuna hook, either by hooking it through the back or through the eye sockets, and drift it back **at the same speed** the slick is dissipating the chum particles. If this is not done properly, your bait will be either higher or lower than the chum line and may go untouched. If it gets to the point where you can see the footballs zipping back and forth through the slick, but they are ignoring your hooked baits, it's time to adopt alternate plan B. This strategy dictates that you strip off some line and toss your offering simultaneously with a handful of chunked bait to let them drift out together. This method has been known to dupe even the most wary of tuna and has been very successful for many of the Canyon anglers this season, when they've tied up to lobster pot buoys to chunk and chum the school yellowfins and bluefins.

If the action slows down a bit during the course of the day while on the hook, you may want to experiment with some high speed jigging, retrieving your diamond jig at various levels through the slick. Eyeball the ocean's surface behind your boat and look for the glazed effect caused by the oil in the bunker chum. Fan-cast this perimeter and retrieve your lure as fast as possible. Believe me, the tuna can move a lot quicker than you can work your jig, even with one of the new 5 to 1 ratio reels. You'll never forget the feeling of your jig being stopped dead in its tracks by a hungry member of the thunnini tribe and then taking off in the opposite direction at Warp Factor 8. It's worth a shot if the bait fishing isn't producing.

Tangling with the fall footballs demands a special type of tackle, some of which you may have sitting around the house or stowed away on your boat. High speed, ball bearing reels like the Newell 332F, Penn 505 Jigmaster and the Daiwa 50H are the minimum quality tackle you should employ for this type of fishing. When there's a chance to pick up the occasional 50 to 100 tuna, many anglers trade up to International 30 and 30TW type reels. Rods should be of the extra fast, West Coast taper, like the Fenwick Pacific sticks and Sabre Stroker types. These blanks let you cast flyweight baits due to their light, sensitive tips, plus exert maximum pressure due to their beefy butt sections. A quality cushioned belt and canvas shoulder or kidney harness will complete your setup for the stand-up battle that awaits you. Use the aforementioned bronzed tuna hooks in a size to match the bait and tie it directly to your 15 to 30 lb. mono line. Don't use a wire trace for these fish, as their keen eyesight will detect it and cut down on your hook-ups. Granted, you may break off the bluefish if they invade your chum line, but you're supposed to be tuna fishing, right? In any event, if you insist on landing a few blues, set the hook as soon as you feel the slightest touch, and with luck, you might lip-hook a few.



Paul Agnello shows a lip-gaffed false albacore prior to release. October weather requires you dress accordingly.

In your search for the fall footballs, concentrate on the inshore wrecks in the 15 to 20 fathom range. Don't overlook dips and depressions in the fathom curves and try to isolate the warmest water you can find; 65 to 68 degrees surface temperatures are average for the month of October and we were catching tuna into November last year with the water hitting a mercury level of only 58 degrees.

A final word of caution before you venture forth for the pelagic speedsters is to be very wary of the unpredictable weather patterns that plague our area at this time of year. Although anglers look forward to the peak of fishing activity that occurs in the fall, many forget that trips are frequently "blown-out" by the elements. My advice is to be flexible in your plans and to wait for the stable weather patterns before making any attempts at running 15 to 20 miles offshore. There's a lot less traffic out there should you break down and need assistance. Make sure your VHF sets are in tiptop shape and by all means leave a float plan and ETA with someone you know. If you hit the right weather day on a hot wreck, you'll be in for the fishing experience of the season. So instead of being an armchair quarterback at home this fall, try some footballs out on the briny.

FRED'S FISH FACTS

BY FRED GUARDINEER

"*TRASH FISH*" REFERS TO NONGAME SPECIES THAT ARE OFTEN GOOD TO EAT OR VALUABLE FOR MEDICAL RESEARCH. AMONG THE MEDICAL HEROES ARE *GARFISH* WHOSE LARGE NERVES ARE USEFUL FOR NEUROLOGICAL STUDIES: *TILAPIA* WHOSE EYES ARE USED FOR CATARACT RESEARCH: AND *CATFISH*, WHOSE PANCREAS ARE USED FOR RESEARCH ON INSULIN.

KILLER WHALES WILL INTENTIONALLY BEACH THEMSELVES TO GRAB AN UNSUSPECTING SEA LION OR SEAL WHICH THEY WILL, IN SOME CASES, TOSS BACK TO THE KIDS!

TROUT, A CHOICE OF ANGLERS FOR CENTURIES, RATE NO. 4 IN POPULARITY IN THE U.S. BEHIND BLUEGILLS, BASS AND CATFISH. THEY ARE PURSUED BY 10.7 MILLION FISHERMEN EACH YEAR.

AN UNUSUALLY LARGE ELVER, OR YOUNG EEL, FROM DEEP DOWN IN THE OCEAN DEPTHS WAS NETTED BY A DANISH TRAWLER... BIOLOGISTS CALCULATED THAT THE BIG BABY COULD GROW OVER 100 FEET LONG!

THE LONGEST TRULY FRESHWATER FISH (NON ANADROMOUS) IS THE AMAZON RIVER REDFISH OR PIRARUCU. IT IS A FOOD FISH THAT GROWS TO 15 FEET AND 400 LBS.

WILL TAKE SPOONS, PLUGS AND STREAMER FLIES. INDIANS USE SPEARS, ARROWS AND TROT LINES.

PLUMBING FOR TAUTOG

by Gerald Hahn

From mid-October through most of November, these North Fork waters provide some outstanding tautog action.

Nobody loves fishing more than Harry and I, yet our temperaments are totally different. Harry considers fishing a relaxing kind of sport. He likes to find a quiet spot and flip some bait over the side of his boat. I must say, he often succeeds with this method, even for such species as tiderunner weaks and chopper blues. Harry's a country lad at heart. If a boat moves onto his turf, he pulls up the anchor and grunts, "It's too crowded here." One can only imagine how upset he gets when a veritable fleet converges on his favorite spot.

There are times when Harry's kind of fishing appeals to me, too, mostly at dawn when I'm still half asleep. I'm a restless fisherman. I'd rather cast a lure for hours—even if nothing is happening—than fish with bait. Moreover, having grown up in New York, crowded conditions don't upset me. If 40 boats are zeroing in on a spot the size of a kitchen sink, I feel at home. Being strafed by diamond jigs and tangled in a web of wire lines is like an adventure on the New York subway during rush hour. If the fish aren't here, I want to go there, and so forth.

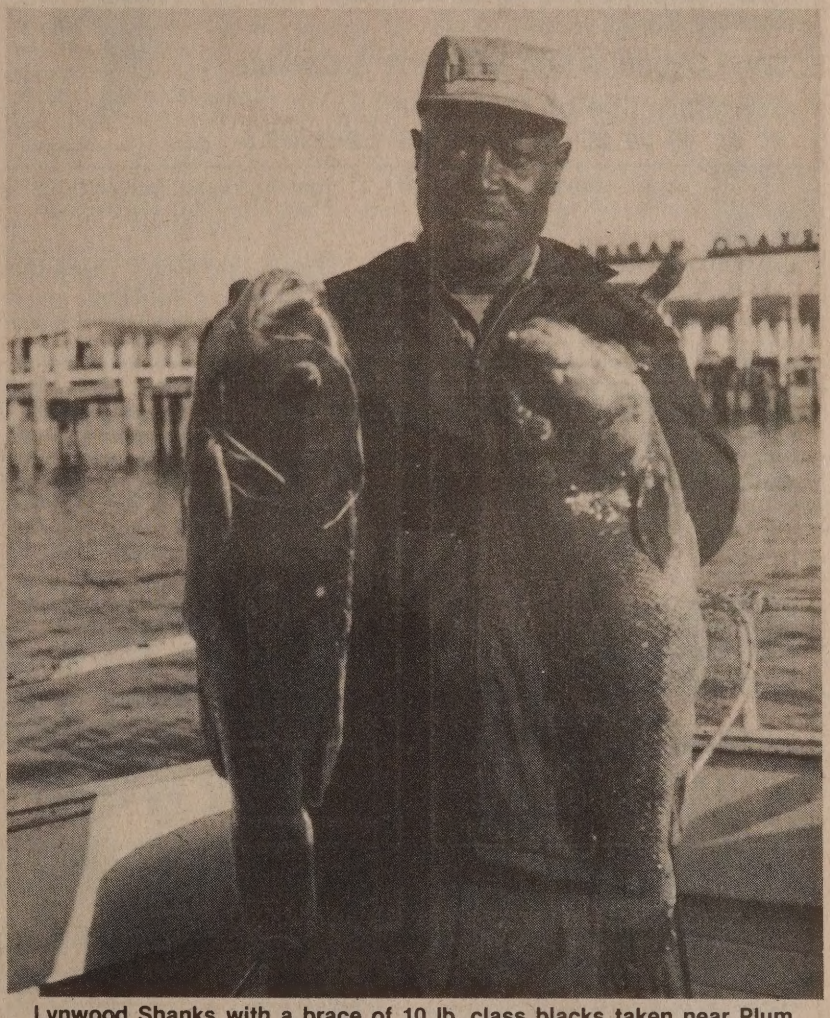
Although our temperaments move in different directions, Harry and I frequently fish together. Being primarily a bait fisherman, Harry's favorite quarry is the blackfish. There is something about this primeval looking fish that appeals to him. Perhaps it's the wrasse's slow pace which matches Harry's fishing methods. Mostly, though, I suspect it's the absolute quiet and concentration that are required to land one. For above all, Harry is patient, and so whenever we go blackfishing, he usually outfishes me.

By example, one day last November, we headed out to Plum Island, east of Orient Point, and when we arrived there, Harry began a tedious process of scouting the waters on the south side.

"Blackfish like rocks," I counseled him. "Aren't the rocks on the north side?"

"To many fishermen there," he grumbled. "We'll do better here," he added.

Plum Island's south side, with its sand beaches and lapping waters, seemed more suitable for fluke than for blackfish, so I couldn't figure out what Harry was looking for. Appearances are deceptive, however, for Harry had timed our arrival at low slack. He soon pointed out numerous ripples in the calm sea, which were not being formed by sandy slopes on the bottom, but by the crowns of submerged boulders laced with leathery strands of brown kelp and clinging rockweed. Just to make sure, he also pointed to some lobster traps in the vicinity. "Lobsters like rocks, too," he said. All true, but I suspect what really appealed to Harry was that we had this side of the island entirely to ourselves.



Lynwood Shanks with a brace of 10 lb. class blacks taken near Plum Island aboard the Peconic Star.

I pulled my rod out of the holder, ready to drop a line, when Harry checked me: "We're not going to catch any blackfish here until we get some current," he said as he maneuvered the boat slowly while keeping an eye on the depth recorder. We tried several dropoffs, but the fluctuations on the bottom were too small for him. He was looking for something lumpier, a place where large rocks loom. At last he found it, a rock that was half the length of the boat. From 10 feet away, you didn't know it was there, but now we were practically sitting on it.

All this searching had taken the better part of an hour and all I could think about was the fun I had missed casting lures to non-existent fish. "The current's starting to move," Harry said. "Let's get started."

(Continued on next page.)

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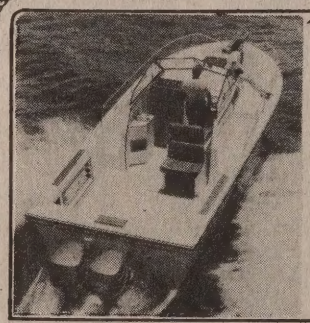

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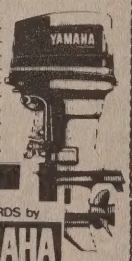

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Started? Having borne the tedious task of lowering and retrieving the heavy anchor four times, I was dying to lower my rig. Of course, I selected the lightest outfit I had, a 6 foot flounder rod that has served me well on such game fish as blues and weaks. Blackfish would be a snap with this wand.

The first blackfish I hooked bent the rod into a half circle and snapped the 8 lb. test like bubble gum. "Use 20 pound test," Harry said as he brought in a 5 lb. blackfish. Humbled that by 'tog, I switched to a 20 lb. class outfit. By the time I made the switch and rigged up, Harry was bringing his third fish over the side.

And so it went throughout the day. I must say, I finally settled down and started catching some blackfish. I'm not a newcomer to this kind of fishing, but I hadn't tried for tautog since the previous fall. And blackfishing requires a special kind of mental set, one that can cope with numerous bergalls stealing your bait and numerous rocks stealing your rig. It's the kind of mental set that is custom made for Harry.

Blackfishing also requires more concentration than other kinds of bottom fishing because the species feeds in a sly manner, on such prey as frisky lobsters and pugnacious crabs, creatures that do not take kindly to becoming a meal. The blackfish, using its strong front teeth and tough lips, first stuns the crustacean with sharp blows, and sometimes declaws it as well. Then it grabs the prey and makes a quick dash into a rocky crevice it has secured for cover. Here the fish uses an extra set of teeth in back of its throat (pharyngeal teeth) which grind the shellfish into digestable portions. Blackfish also feed on mussels, clams, barnacles and seaworms, which they pry off jagged boulders, old pilings and bridge supports, shipwrecks and other riprap on the sea floor. Pulling a blackfish out of this mess is like running an obstacle course blindfolded.

Another difficulty with the blackfish is its relative, the bergall or cunner, a most appropriate name for an even slyer fish. Some days the bergalls are in so thick, they steal the bait off your hook before it reaches bottom. The only thing you can do is wait them out and hope that their commotion will attract some bulldogs.

Aside from an inordinate amount of tolerance, blackfishing requires a rig held absolutely still on the bottom. Small blackfish ring the dinner bell with a series of rapid tugs on the line, presumably when they are stunning their prey. If nothing but quiet ensues, it's time to retrieve the line and put on fresh bait. When the tugs are followed by a sharp downward jolt, a blackfish angler such as Harry instantly raises the rod to the sky, like a preying mantis, and simultaneously cranks the reel. Harry says it's the only way to prevent the fish from wrapping the rig around a rock and tearing free its meal.

I'm glad to say that large blackfish dispense with these antics. And large blackfish are the norm at Plum Island! Here, 4 to 6 pounders are as common as the 2 pounders taken elsewhere, and specimens over 10 lbs. are not unusual. These brutes inhale the bait slowly and then plummet to the bottom in a flash, straining the rod to its capacity.

Since blackfish are fond of hard baits, special hooks are used to catch them. The hooks, known as blackfish or Virginia hooks, have a blue-black color for low visibility and a short hollow point with an offset bend for securing hard baits. Favored sizes are #6 for average-sized blackfish and #4 for bulldogs over 5 lbs. Two of these hooks, snelled to 12 inch leaders of 40 lb. test, are tied in tandem or high-low fashion. An end loop on the running line holds a bank sinker weighing 2 to 5 ounces, and a dropper loop 2 or 3 inches above holds the tandem tied hooks. A high-low rig begins the same way, but the hooks are then tied to two droppers above each other: 2 and 13 inches above the sinker. In really rough terrain, some people resort to a short leader of 40 lb. test for the rig and scale down the offering to a single hook.

At Plum Island, the predominant bait for blackfish is a green crab. The smallest ones are best since they are easiest to secure on the hook. Indeed, small green crabs can be fished whole and alive although most fishermen stun them by cracking the shell, which also releases juices. The crab is impaled in the tail, or by removing several legs and inserting the hook point through one socket and out another. Larger crabs are cut in half from head to tail and the hook point is inserted in the joint where any leg meets the carapace. Here, too, removing the legs or claws and using the exposed sockets as hold-fasts for the hook is a rigging method that is often employed. No matter what the rigging method, it is important to expose only the hook point, but not the barb which serves as a wedge. Of the two presentations, a whole crab is actually less visible than a cut-up section, and consequently attracts few blackfish. The ones it will attract, however, are likely to be outsized. Always experimenting, Harry tries one of each on a two-hook rig.

Some regulars at Plum Island swear by hermit crabs, which have a soft-shelled body and a tail (actually, the abdomen) that is softer than a sea-worm. Hermits are expensive, though and hard to come by as well. At times, they are available on the North Fork, at Warren's Bait and Tackle and at the Port of Egypt and Mattituck Inlet Fishing Stations. Although hermits are sold frozen, the best ones are alive and frisky. These vulnerable crabs come in a discarded murex or whelk shell they have secured for protection and consequently, they must be evicted. This is accomplished by carefully pounding the shell with a block of wood or the flat side of a large diamond-shaped sinker. The crab is then removed and impaled through the underside of the hard forepart, so that the point exits in the soft sac, the part blackfish relish most. As with green crabs, removing the hermit's large claws and breaking the legs at the first joint, prevent it from scurrying into a hole.

Few people in this area (Plum Island) bother with the tiny fiddler crab as bait. Nor do they use such soft baits as sandworms and clams, which attract bergalls and scavengers. For several hours of fishing, Harry and I load up with half a bushel of green crabs or at least 4 dozen hermits. Another item we never forget is a large landing net.

Blackfishing at Plum Island is best performed during the change of tide, when the current is slower. The fall run, which extends from mid-October to late November, brings in the largest blackfish. Water temperatures in the mid-50s draw the bulldogs to the 15 to 20 foot depths, close to shore and around both sides of the island. As the weather gets colder, the fish head to slightly deeper water of 40 to 60 feet. By winter, they move offshore where they hibernate like bears.

If you're always in a rush to wet a line, find someone like Harry to slow you down. Undoubtedly, you will wind up with more quality fish his way—blackfish, anyway.

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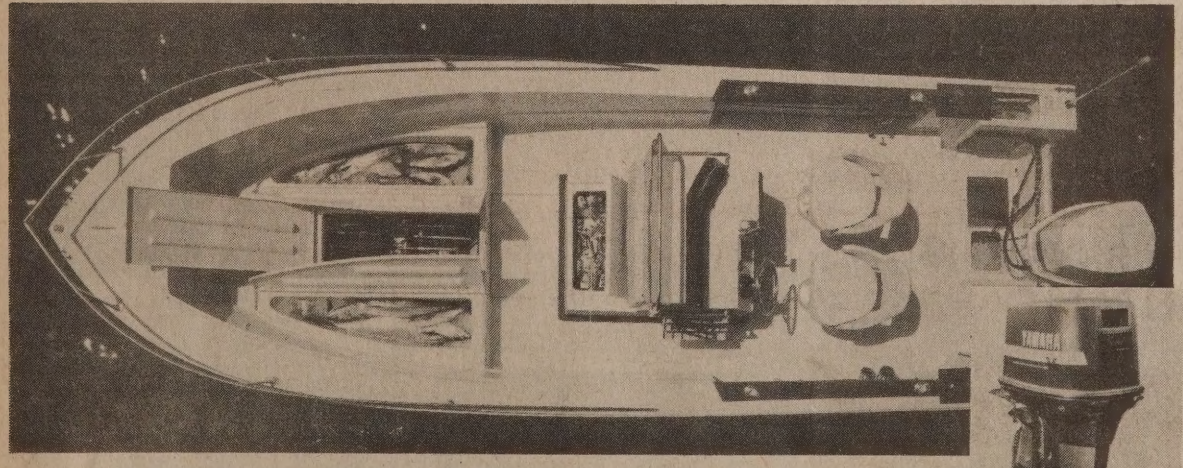

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HUDSON RIVER FALL RUN STRIPERS

by Stephen Sautner

I cast. My jig plunked into the water between two rotting pilings some 30 feet away. Bass were breaking water almost every 10 seconds. I began my retrieve, a brisk twitching technique, but before the lure was halfway back, I received a jolting strike and was fast into another striper. The fish thrashed wildly on the surface, but in another 30 seconds would find my thumb in its mouth. I routinely removed the hook and dropped the 3 lber. back into the river, my 20th that night.

As you probably know, the Hudson River is alive with school sized stripers in the fall. So far, this season has proved to be excellent and the action should last until January. Most anglers who pursue these one to eight pounders will probably do so at night and this means that they'll be doing a lot of their fishing from piers.

The action from the Hudson River piers can be torrid and many boat fishermen do not realize this. The wooden and concrete pilings which support the pier and the deep channels which surround it play host to a myriad of bass foods such as sand worms, sand eels, herring, shrimp and assorted other creatures. Bass capitalize on the situation and it is harder to find a pier without bass than with them. I have caught and released up to 40 bass a night on a pier while nearby bank fishermen only picked up a couple.

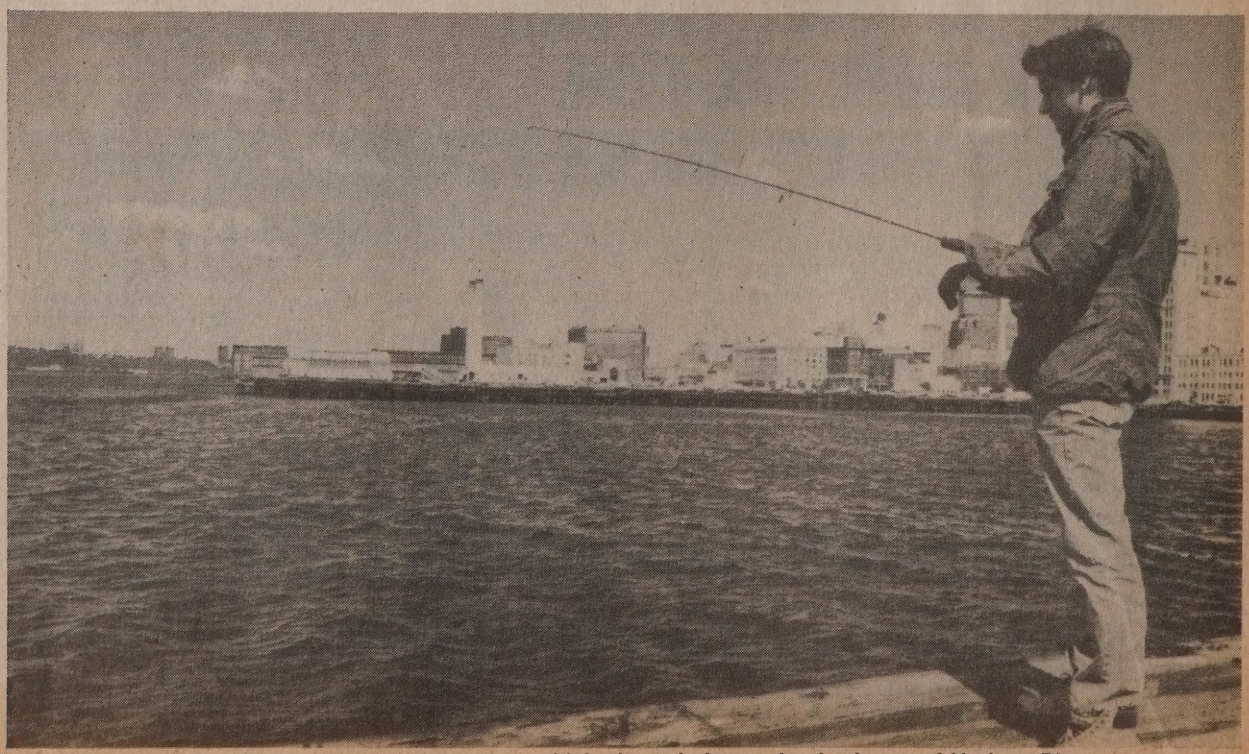
The best part about this type of fishing is that it is relatively simple. I have managed to narrow down the procedures to three simple techniques: slapping, walking and plunking.

Slapping is probably the most unusual technique for fishing the piers. Fellow anglers have given me strange stares when I employ it and even stranger stares when it produces which it does consistently. Basically, all it calls for is taking a medium sized floating plug and slapping it hard on the water in rapid succession maybe three times. After you slap, pause for five or ten seconds and if a bass hasn't engulfed the lure yet, give it a twitch or two, pause, twitch and repeat. Sometimes the bass need a little coaxing but more often than not they will pounce on the lure with nasty intentions.

The technique works best when there is a slight chop on the water. When the water is dead calm, I find the bass are far less aggressive and rather than hitting the lure with a vengeance, will often rise slowly to the plug and take a half-hearted snap at it.

Some plugs which have produced well for me are floating RedFins in black, red and white, and silver; deep diving Rebels, because the long bill makes them wobble enticingly just under the surface; Baby Zara Spooks, which are very hard to find but are well worth the effort; and Heddon Torpedoes, both tiny and regular.

Slapping is basically a sitdown technique but even so it still takes a certain amount of skill. Also the fish must be located first if one is to slap successfully. Walking is an excellent way to learn the basics and even a beginniner can walk his way to a nice catch. Its only drawback is that it can be boring. One quarter to one-half ounce jigs are used. The deeper the bass, the heavier the jig. Bucktails, plastic curly tails, or Sassy Shad types work fine. Color can be important. I



Author fishing off one of the piers which abound along urbanized area of Hudson River.

have found that when the bass are right off the bottom or on nights with no moon or clouds, white works best, but when the fish are on top or when there is a moon or cloud cover, purple or black often turn up winners.

The technique could not be easier. Just drop your lure, let it sink maybe five feet, close the bail, and go for a walk. Experiment with different speeds and depths, not unlike trolling. The lure will swim from piling to piling and it is that same swimming action which rings the dinner bell for the stripers. I only resort to walking when I'm trying to locate the fish.

If you like to cast, plunking is your technique. Plunking is simply casting parallel to the pier and swimming the jig back to you. When fish are breaking water (you'll hear pops and slurps), keep the lure on top by keeping your rod tip up. Periodically let the jig pendulum down and it will swim past the pilings on its own.

Oftentimes, the bass are deep or scattered. The way I approach this problem is to walk (troll) until I catch a bass, then I work that area thoroughly, experimenting with different depths and retrieves. The pendulum technique which I mentioned before really produces when the bass are deep. I cast out perhaps 20 feet and let the lure touch bottom. Then I reel up a few turns quickly and let the lure swing back to me just off the bottom. If the line goes slack, I set the hook hard because a bass just inhaled the jig.

Incidentally, tide stages are supercritical. Always fish a moving tide. Bass take up feeding stations on the downstream side of the pier, so be prepared to switch sides according to which way the tide is moving. One pier which I often fish has a vast shallow flat on one side, but on the other side, the water is quite deep. Because the deep water, which holds most of the fish, is on the downstream side of the pier, I can only fish effectively when the tide is outgoing. Most piers have deep water on both side, so this probably won't be a problem.

To truly enjoy your fishing always keep safety in mind. This is especially true while pier fishing. Never fish old, rotting, abandoned piers. These structures are not safe and are often full of holes and crawling with rats. Access to private piers may be a problem, but it never hurts to ask. Manhattan and Brooklyn both have excellent public piers, but there are many more on both sides of the river. Also, keep in mind that these piers can be very cold and lonely, so dress warm and bring a friend or two.

One last request: New Jersey states that it is unlawful to keep any bass smaller than 18 inches (24 in New York). It is especially important to release these schoolies unharmed. Not only for conservation purposes, but for the simple reason that the 20 incher you release today might be the 20 pounder that wallops your plug in the surf tomorrow.

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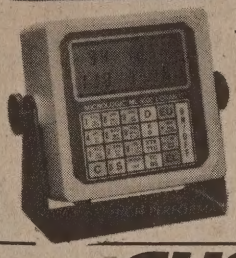

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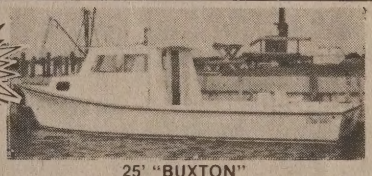

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DIAMONDS FOR BLUES

by Pete Barrett

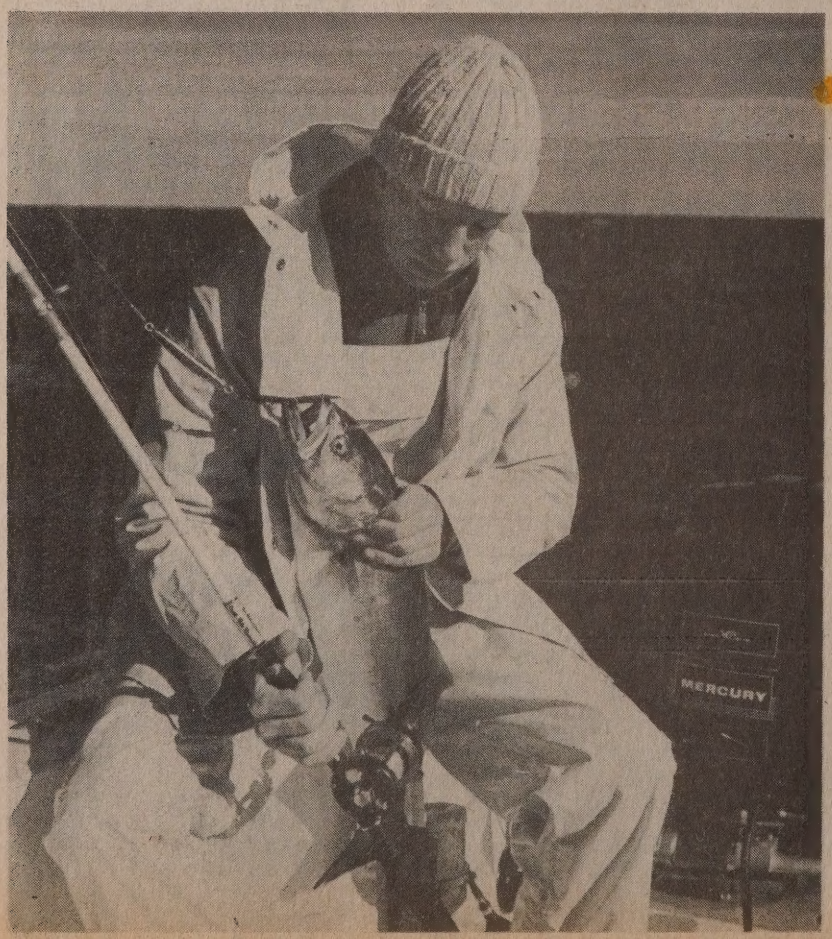
Big bluefish and attacks from bonito and false albacore are guaranteed when diamond jigging in the fall.

Mel Ravitz pointed the bow of his "Spring Fever" into the sun moments after we cleared the Inlet and shoved the throttles forward to bring the diesels up to cruising speed. Dawn was still nearly an hour away, yet the eastern sky was already a refreshing splash of blues, orange and pink. Visibility from the raised helm on Mel's 340 Luhrs was excellent and we made good time on the way to the offshore bluefish grounds.

The target area was a slough on the 20 fathom curve where big blues had been holding up in large schools for several days. Mixed in were bonito up to 8 lbs. and we had heard of false albacore being caught in the area of 12 lbs. or more. The blues were all 12 to 15 lbs.—some occasionally nearing the 20 lb. mark!

While Mel ran the compass course aided by the Loran, my brother-in-law Bob Dietzsch and I readied the tackle. A pair of Ambassadeur 7000s were the "heavy" jigging outfits and were filled with 17 pound test line. Three smaller conventional outfits were also readied, filled with 12 pound test line. Each outfit was rigged with short two foot double line, then a four foot length of 40 pound Ande clear mono—excellent for jigging leaders.

The heavy leaders would protect the end of the line from scrapes against the blue's gill plates and would also be used to lift fish directly into the boat without using a gaff. Many of our fish would be released unharmed, so the gaffs would be left stowed in the racks unless a truly big fish would be brought to boat.



When big sand eels are present on the bluefish grounds, jig and tube combos are the ticket.

We knew the blues were decent sized and tough, plus they would have to be yanked up from 120 feet of water. Conventional tackle with its efficient lifting power was the only choice. Rods were 6 feet in length with a beefy butt action and a medium tip action that would bend under the pull of large blues, the spring-like action applying constant pressure to tire the fish.

The calm seas, good visibility and fast boat had us on the grounds in 40 minutes. Mel scanned the recorder watching for the dip into the edge of a slough that we were looking for. As the bottom line dipped sharply the stylus scratched large butterfly-shaped marks that had "bluefish" written all over them. The fish were there and in good numbers.

Mel ran upwind a short distance until the recorder stopped marking fish, then turned broadside to the breeze and shut down the engines. "Okay, drop the jigs down," Mel said. "Let's see some action!" As the breeze pushed us back towards the dip the recorder again marked fish. Most all the marks were in the bottom layer of water.

It's always a good bet to put a variety of lures in front of the fish on the first drift to find out what the preference is for the day. For some strange reason known only to blues, they may prefer plain jigs with no tube tails on one day, yet only hit on green-tailed or red-tailed lures on another day.

The first fish in the boat may spit up bait and provide a clue as to what the best lure might be. Short, small sand eels of 4 to 6 inches call for untailed jigs, while large 10 to 12 inch eels indicate the tailed lures with their longer profile may be a better choice.

On this day, we each snapped on a different jig to the end of the line: Mel fished a red tail, Bob a green tail and my jig was plain. The tailed lures quickly got hits, the untailed jig did not. As they say, "My mother didn't raise a fool," and I changed over to a tailed jig right away. Color did not seem to matter on that day, probably because of the extreme depth. The lack of light at 120 feet makes most lures look virtually black.

We caught fish from sun up until eleven o'clock when we quit to head back to the dock, cooler full and still having released nearly twice as many as we kept. Arms ached pleasantly, hands felt sore from gripping the

tackle tightly against the hard pull of many blues. Jackets were shed as the midday sun warmed the world.

The fun of this fall diamond jigging is the size of the fish, the large numbers of fish and the chance at a variety of several different species of fish, not just blues. Summer blues are generally smaller in size and unless very light tackle is used they don't fight all that well. The 10 to 15 pound fall blues are ravenously feeding as they migrate south in enormous waves of fish and they have had all summer to feed and grow strong. They fight hard and don't give an inch of line without a lot of strain and pain from the angler.

The fight of a bluefish is usually down and deep with lots of head shakes and short runs. You can tell right away when you hook a bonito or false albacore—they rip off line in a longer run and usually run out and away from the boat. As they tire the fight goes back down deep in small, tight circular runs. The fish go round and round as you slowly lift them from the depths, the line vibrating from the tension and the rapid beat of their tails.

These small members of the tuna tribe will wallop diamond jigs just as hard as any bluefish will. Since the fight is different they add extra sport to the day's catch. Some of the largest bonito and false albacore will be caught in the fall. Gone are the summertime half-pint bonito of 1 to 2 pounds; here are the 6, 7 and 8 pounders. Gone are the 4, 5 and 6 pound false albacore; here are the 10 to 15 pounders.

The largest bonito I recall weighing in was an 11 pound fish taken three years ago late in October. The largest false albacore I've ever had hit the deck was a 14 lb. 12 oz. fish that took nearly 25 minutes to get to the boat on 10 lb. line.

I'm always amazed at how the 15 pound bluefish I put into the cooler seem to become 11 or 12 pound fish back at the dock. I guess we all have over-optimistic vision when a fish is fresh caught. The largest bluefish, on the scales, we ever took was a 19 lb. 7 ouncer taken on 12 pound line. If the fish had gone over 20 pounds I was going to mount it for my office. Depending on how you look at it I either saved $400 in the mount or I still have the challenge of breaking the 20 pound mark.

Ideal tackle is a medium weight conventional outfit capable of handling 17 lb. test line. Too heavy a line and the sport is lost; too light a line and you really can't feel the fight. We also like to release a lot of our fish and on the medium weight tackle they are still very full of life when brought to the boat. Toss them back in the water and they leave the scene with one strong flick of the tail.

Lighter tackle can be used. My son, Rich, uses 6 pound test and has a ball with these big fish. A 12 lb. blue on light stuff will take 15 to 20 minutes to get to the boat, sometimes longer. I recall one drift when the rest of us all caught 3 to 5 fish while Rich played out one blue. The light tackle is a test of your angling skill and adds a measure of challenge to the day's fishing.

Bob Dietzsch (L) and Mel Ravitz with a pair of big slammer blues taken on diamond jigs.

Because the fish are concentrated in relatively small areas, it is possible to make huge catches of blues in the fall. Not every day is a red hot bonanza, but we've had dozens of trips each fall for the last several years that saw the total catch for the day reach the 200 fish mark—and that's for three anglers in the boat! The best day I ever had was a total catch of 320 blues—all in the 12 to 15 pound class.

I get a big kick out of tagging fish, or simply releasing them to fight again, so most of our daily catch goes right back into the sea. I find it easy to release these bigger fish if I wear a pair of foul weather pants: I grab the lure with one hand, swing the fish aboard and grab him behind the gills with the other hand and hold him against the front of the pants. Twist the hook free and toss him back.

I've found no alternative that works well for releasing large numbers of fish. Plopping them on the deck rubs off their protective slime coating and may damage the fish as it flops around. A wildly gyrating blue is nearly impossible to grab on the deck unless you corner him with your boot against the gun'l and that too can't do much for the health of the fish. The swing him aboard, hold him against the pants system works well. Of course, for those fish you plan to keep for dinner it doesn't matter how you get them aboard—they'll end up in the box one way or another.

In June and July, we look for sharks; August and September are tuna time, but October and November are reserved in our angling calendar for bluefish. It's the best time of the year to catch big fish, large numbers of fish and to have the pleasure of adding some fast tuna type catches into the day's total.

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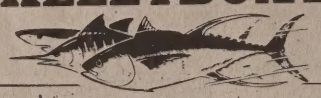

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East End REPORT

with Mrs. Lorry Mangan

Since the waters have cleared, temperatures have dropped a bit and lots is happening on the east end. Those who were able to get offshore met with blue sharks and makos and a smattering of tuna. Inshore, red hot action on porgies, blackfish and bluefish and there are enough striped bass around to predict a full moon feeding spree. Flounder are stirring as well.

MONTAUK

A trip on the **Mako Express** on Saturday, in lumpy seas, proved that plenty of blue sharks are ready, willing and able to jump on any bait. Shaaron "Animal" Witolin, her son Richard, Chuck Zoccolillo, John Lorusso, Pat O'Connor and I joined Capt. Zac Grossman looking for makos, but finding more blue sharks than we had time for. We fought, tagged and released eight sharks, ranging from 100 to 300 lbs., with either Capt. Zac or me videotaping all the action.

Captain Mike Bentivegna, Jr. fished the New London area with Mr. Jussen and his friends on Saturday. About 100 blackfish, top weight 12 lbs., jumped on green crabs on the **Pronto.** On Sunday, Eric Reinfeld and Al Smerge used both jigs and herring bait for 80 bluefish at Cartwright.

Last Wednesday, a morning trip for Maurice Curtis on the charter boat **Caprice** resulted in a fine catch of both sea bass and porgies. Later in the afternoon, bluefish jumped on bucktails under the Light. On Sunday, a trip with Bill Stine, under the Montauk Light, located loads of bluefish to eight pounds. Captain Bob Storc remarked that trolling bucktails at a fast speed had false albacore to 15 lbs. jumping on the hook.

The **Viking Starship's** last trip to George's Banks was fantastic, according to Capt. Paul Forsberg, with great amounts of cod, including many in the 40 lb. range. Pool winners included Ted Dickes of Ridgewood, NY with a 55 lb. cod, and Ernest Moebius of NYC with a 53 lb. cod. One wolffish was also caught. Captain Forsberg stated that during the night, many cod were caught during slack water at anchor. Fortunately, the weather was great and the seas flat. The last Georges Bank trip of the season is scheduled for this weekend; call the office for reservations.

Locally, the **Viking Star** located 80 cod on Saturday, 10-12, on offshore wrecks, with John "Goo-goo eyes"

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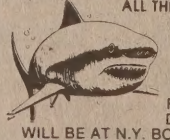
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Robessa copping the pool with a 36 lb. fish. Sunday's trip produced 40 fish, with a pool fish of 39 lbs. caught by Helmut Faengler of NYC. Although night bluefishing is still tremendous, the **Viking** will sail only on Saturday nights, continuing until the blues leave the area. Porgy action is fantastic with monster porgies at Block Island mixed with some large sea bass. According to Captain Forsberg, these porgies are so large, that 70 fill a bushel basket. Number 2 porgy hooks were straightened out! The **Viking** will sail for these "oven stuffer roaster porgies" daily at 6AM.

Captain Jerry McGrath called to say that Tommy and Vinnie Greco loaded up with blackfish, 75 to 6 lbs., flounder to 2 lbs. and sea bass to 3 lbs., fishing on the **Nostalgia II** on the south side on Saturday.

Tommy, speaking for the **Montauk Marine Basin**, had many reports of blue shark activity over the weekend. Inshore, blues and blackfish are red hot. Expectations for this upcoming full moon is for superlative action on bass—size and quantity.

Captain Joe McBride of the charter boat **My Mate** has been picking up a few bass inshore, with two caught Saturday, top weight 20 lbs. Saturday's trip to Cartwright with Sam Dunne and his family loaded up on blues, albacore and green bonito as well. A scheduled offshore charter with Ken Heeley switched to inshore blues because of Sunday's sea conditions. Blues were thick and wiling on the south side and the point with false albacore and green bonito mixed. Captain McBride tried false albacore salad, claiming it to be quite good: the trick is to pressure cook, or steam the fish well, then use it as you would canned tuna for salad. There are a few open dates in November on the **My Mate**. Call Captain McBridge for info.

Paul Farley and his friends from Pennsylvania had a taste of offshore shark action on the **Adios** on Friday. Two hook-ups were made and lost before a large mako took the bait—and fought for 1½ hours. According to Capt. Phil Lewis, when gaffs were put into the shark and the tail rope secured, it went beserk and rolled up the gaff handles breaking all gaff handles straightening out all three gaff hooks. The fish was finally subdued and weighed 270 pounds at the dock. In other action, Capt. Lewis reported plenty of bluefish and blackfish inshore, with lots of life offshore. Call the Adios for information on both inshore and offshore charters.

Edelman's Lou Rosado fished on the Bullet on Friday with Howard, Frank and Sam on a brief trip on the south side. Over 2 dozen sea bass took clam baits, along with blackfish and jumbo porgies. However, according to Lou, bluefish were so numerous and aggressive that it was difficult to get whole sea bass, blacks or porgies into the boat since the choppers (living up to their name) were grabbing them on the way up! Over 50 blackfish to 8 pounds were taken on green crabs on Sunday while fishing on the **Star Island** based boat 'Milkessa' with Stanley and Bill (Gut-C).

Henry Uihlein called to remark about the fantastic bluefishing in local Montauk waters. Dick Nickerson and his son, Keith, saved their vaction to engage on a four day fishing marathon for blues on a boat from **Uihlein's Boat Rentals**. Their total four day catch—400—left them fished-out and arm weary. On October 9th, the blues were so thick, that only one umbrella rig could be let out with four blues immediately leaping on. Six bonito managed also to take the trolled tubes. Henry has had reports of a few stripers trolled between Shagwong and the Montauk light. Many flounder have been brought into the rental station, some caught in the lake, others right from the dock. Uihlein's boats will be in the water available for this great fall fishing through November.

Steve Waterstone fished with Captain Ron Grandinetti on the **Julie II** on Saturday. The pair bagged over 300 porgies plus 35 flounders at Great Eastern. On Sunday, the Renaldo's fished the Point, where over 100 bluefish were boated.

Captain King reported hot and heavy bluefish action on the **King Wayne** all week with anglers filling every box on the boat with large blues by noon every day. Jack Kreegen put down a herring for blues and was surprized with a six pound sea bass, the bigger surprise was that the blues didn't eat it on the way up. A few stripers have been taken with blues each day as well. On the weekend, a charter arranged by Mike Contessa for the Moriches Anglers Fishing Club had a good pick of blackfish to eight pounds, with sea bass and porgies, fishing at Southwest Ledge. Saturday night's group, teenagers from the Sachem School Fishing Club, tested their muscles on monster blues. I understand that the group proved themselves well able to handle these fish and are ready to go again!

Saturday's bluefish trip on the **Allyssa Ann** located plenty of small blues, bonito, and false albacore at the Point, all taken on jigs, fished by Don and Jerry Rourke and their friends. Sunday's bluefish trip was switched to blackfish because of nasty sea conditions. Over three dozen blackfish were caught in a one hour period, including some double headers with Rudy Monterroso and his friends Fred and Mario, according to Captain Bill Ricca.

Captain Chuck Mallinson of the charter boat **Joy Sea** reports excellent bluefishing with a few bass. Blackfish moved in, in good numbers and size. Cod should be ready in a few weeks. An offshore trip with Reed White of

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Lisa Denninger hefts the 3½ lb. fluke she caught in Shinnecock Bay. Photo courtesy of Corr's Best Boat Works in Southampton.

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White Plains on Friday found blue sharks to 300 pounds which were released. The **Joy-Sea** will be fishing through Christmas. Check ad for details.

Captain Steve Mauss reports "unreal" blackfishing at Mad Dog Reef with several weighing over 12 pounds (on certified marina scales). The **Kraken III** is booking blackfish charters. Call for available dates on this hot action.

Captain Fred Bird stated that high hook on a porgy trip on the **Flying Cloud** one day last week was 140 porgies caught by George Steinman. Captain Bird says that the porgy action both at Montauk and Block Island is outstanding, with quality fish in great numbers. He expects this porgy fishing to continue another few weeks, as along as the weather holds up.

SOUTH FORK

The anglers on the **Sag Harbor** based open boat, **Wilhelric II**, enjoyed the "best blackfishing of the year" according to Captain Artie Lach. On Tuesday, while anchoring on a new blackfish spot on Mad Dog Reef, every rod on the boat bent over before the anchor even took hold. Before the day ended, over 300 blackfish were put into the boat, with "Captain" Paul Lapinski high hook with about 25 blacks. On Wednesday, the action was even better, with about 400 fish brought aboard, including many double headers. Captain Lapinski again was high hook with 35 blackfish, the heaviest 11 pounds 2 ounces, and eight fish over ten pounds. All fish were caught on green crab. On Wednesday, Cowboy caught

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25 blacks, top weight ten pounds. A trio of anglers in the bow accounted for sixty fish with many double headers.

Captain Lach commented that this looks like it will shape up to compare to the fantastic season of two years ago, and suggests making plans to fish now while the weather is good. He also recommends fishing with fourty pound test tackle or better, since many larger fish broke off due to light lines. On the porgy scene, Captain Lach states that although jumbo porgies have not quite, he has stopped fishing for them since he doesn't want to miss out on this blackfish action. The **Wilhelric** will sail exclusively for blackfish from Saturday through Wednesday beginning now.

Although porgies seem to be gone from Cedar Point, flounder are moving in according to Chris Salb at **Bayview Marine and Tackle**. Other flounder spots include Northwest Creek, where they can be reached from shore: Sag Harbor Cove and Long Wharf Pier. Blackfish have been picked up as close as Cedar Point and as far away as Gardiner's Island. Lots of bluefish still hanging in at Gardiner's Island.

Windy weather held back fishing efforts according to Joe Coor at **Sherry & Joe Corr's Best Boatworks** in **Southampton**. However, flounder were caught earlier in the week in areas towards Quogue. Snappers appear to be moving out. The marina is in full operation and ready for the fall run.

I heard of pretty good flounder action at Penny Pond from a customer at **Speck's Bait and Tackle** in

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South Shore REPORT
with Fred Golofaro

The south shore fishing scene continues to take on more of a fall-like appearance though the transition continues to be a gradual one. Blackfish still lead the way for sinker bouncers with flounder catches still slow in most areas, but on the upswing. Shades of summer still remain in the form of tuna action for the offshore set and snappers for those who ply the sport from the local docks.

MORICHES BAY & INLET

According to Capt. Ron Schleuter of the **Moriches** based **Alma Fleet**, a mixed bag of sea bass, porgies and blackfish continue to dominate catches with a few more flounder showing up in the bays. Most days see fares average 4 to 5 flounder apiece. On Friday, Jim Costiglia managed 9 flounder along with a mixed bag of sea bass, porgies and blacks. The skipper noted that water temperatures are still too high for any good flounder fishing to develop. A good cold snap could remedy the situation very quickly. A wreck trip on Tuesday resulted in 5-6 monster blues (15-18 pounds) per man.

The charter boat **Frances Ann** fished ½ day trips on both Saturday and Sunday. A party headed by Alan Georkon Saturday had a mess of large blues as well as a few school bass up to 12 pounds. Fishing was done just outside of the inlet. On Sunday, Don Herbazettle and friends caught blues, albacore and bonito close by to the inlet.

Southampton, along with a report of large snappers at Tiana Bay and Sebonac Neck. According to Thom Speckenback, fat flounders were caught during the past week in the Basket in Shinnecock Bay as well as in Heady Creek. Sea bass with flounder are moving through the Shinnecock Canal. Blackfishing is reported very good around Gardiner's Island. Offshore over the weekend, a 94 pound mako was caught in 180 feet of water by Captain Mike Forman on the "Sandra Jeanne". Offshore wrecks (Panther and Bridge) have a good amount of sea bass. Lots of blues in the ocean.

Larry Mangarillo saw a few flounder brought into **Corr's Mariners Cove** in **Hampton Bays** this past week. Action is slow, but not for a lack of fish, but rather a lack of fishermen.

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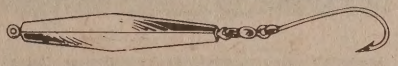

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GREAT SOUTH BAY/ FIRE ISLAND INLET

Paul Graniello over at **J & J Tackle** in **Patchogue** said that blackfishing remains great. He reported looking over lots of good catches over the weekend and was particularly impressed with the size of the fish being taken. He looked over a number of 6 and 7 pound class blackfish taken at Kismet Reef and the RM Bridge on fiddler and green crabs. One trio of anglers returned on Sunday with 45 nice blacks from Kismet. Flounder have been getting very little play but flounder fishermen have been reporting quite a few blue claw crabs being taken on their flounder baits. The local dock scene has been quiet.

Over at **J & R Sports Center** in **Oakdale**, Dave Canale reported a catch of 15 blues from 9 to 10 pounds trolled just outside the inlet on Friday by Bob Chambers. On Saturday, Bob Cook Sr. & Jr. counted for 14 nice blackfish on green crabs at Kismet Reef. Dave noted that there has been some very good action with blackfish, sea bass and porgies on the Fire Island Ocean Reef. The only decent flounder reports are coming from the State Channel near the Amityville and Babylon Cuts.

Blackfishing is holding up very well in the bay according to Carl Miller of **Smokey's Tackle Shop** in **Bay Shore**. Saturday afternoon seemed to be especially productive. Boatmen are concentrating on Kismet Reef, RM Bridge and various bay wrecks and using both green and fiddler crabs. Carl noted that a good number of the blacks being taken are big ones and told of seeing many 5 and 6 pounders among anglers catches. Carl also reported seeing a nice catch of flounder taken at mid-week near Lindenhurst Cut on worms. Still a few big weaks being livelined from the WR Buoy down to the inlet. Bunker, blackfish or snappers if you can still find them have all accounted for tiderunner weaks. Still plenty of crabs

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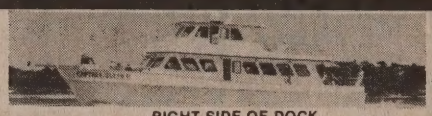
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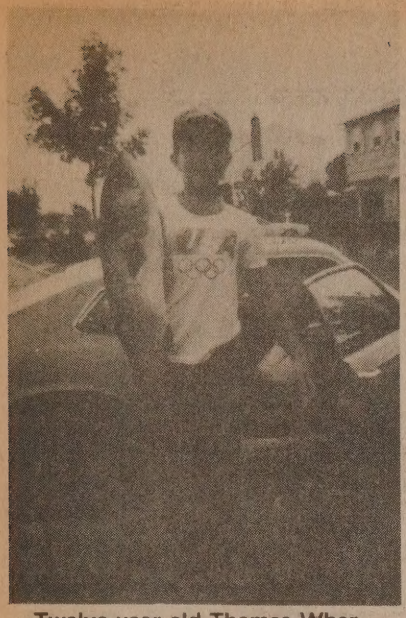
around according to Carl, if you know where to look. Some are still well back in the bay but look for the Oak Beach Cove to get hot soon. On the offshore scene there was some very good action with bluefin tuna on the wreck of the Bacardi during the week. The fish ranged from 40 to 150 pounds and were taken on bait and chum.

Capt. George Tweedy of the **Captree** open boat **Capt. Scotty 3** reported on the ocean bluefishing picture. He noted that there was some great action during the week with bags of 4-5 pound blues taken by fares. Some had as many as 3 and 4 bags. He also reported a day this week where fares tangled with some real monsters including a 19 plus pound pool winner. The weekend action was picky though plenty of fish were marked on the machine. There was some steady action during the morning fishing and then a pick through the rest of the day. Sea bass up to 2 and 3 pounds have been accounting for a good bycatch. A 6 pound sea bass was taken aboard the boat on Sunday. The boat's special bluefish pool is now up to $3900.

Capt. Gordon Roman of the open boat **Captree Queen II** has been working various wrecks south of Fire Island on his night bluefish runs. Saturday's fishing was off but Sunday night saw excellent action with fish of mixed sizes. Some nights see all gorillas making up the catches. Saturday night did see an exceptional catch in the form of a 22 pound 12 ounce slammer taken by Gene Marchese. Sea bass and blackfish action on the Fire Island Ocean Reef and nearby wrecks was good all week long according to the skipper. Best blackfish of the weekend was taken on Saturday by Artie Drum of Hollis, Queens. It weighed 8 pounds 8 ounces.

Capt. Joe DiLiberto of the **Captree** charter boat **Prime Time** called to report good blackfishing on both Saturday and Sunday and he too was most impressed with the quality of the fish being taken. Many of the fish making up the catches have been in the 3 and 4 pound class with fish up to 6 and 7 pounds mixed in as well. A neighboring boat on Sunday landed one tog that was a sure bet to go over the 10 pound mark. The skipper worked atop the barge in the Oak Beach Cove on Saturday and spent Sunday atop the Kismet Reef. Sunday's largest black checked in at 7 pounds.

From **Captree Bait and Tackle** Bobby Sprenger spoke of some good blackfish action for pier fishermen at Robert Moses. He also mentioned that some nice fish are being taken at the Sore Thumb for those with access. He has weighed quite a few fish in the 5 to 6 pound class over the past



Twelve-year-old Thomas Wharton shows the 14½ lb. blue which earned him pool honors during a recent trip aboard the Captree based open boat, "Capt. Scotty 3."

week. All are being taken on fiddler and green crabs. Flounder fishing off the local piers has been very picky. Best shot for flatties is the Jones Beach Piers with worms. Snappers are gone from the Captree Overlook Pier.

Very good blackfishing with a mixture of some sea bass and porgies at Kismet and the RM Bridge. This according to Tom Healy of **Augie's Bait and Tackle** in **Babylon**. On Wednesday, Tom weighed an 8.3 pound blackfish for Al Kaich and an 8.2 pound tautog for Al's son Don. Both were among a nice catch made by the two at Kismet. There has been a fair pick of flounder in the State Channel from Fox Creek to the Amityville Cut. Chum is important with most of the fish averaging ¾ of a pound and an occasional fish to 1¼ pound. A few being taken at the Sore Thumb as well. Big weaks still roam the inlet under the bunker schools. Ken Darnay clicked with an 11.11 pounder on Friday. Al Lorenzetti added a couple of 10 pounders to his recent totals on Saturday. Charlie Romano checked in a very impressive sea bass taken from an ocean wreck on the weekend. The big bass weighed in at 6 pounds 8 ounces. Capt. Einer Grell of the **Babylon** charter boat **Moby Dick** reported to Tom that his charter mohawked the blues to 22 pounds on Saturday. They added 20 weaks up to 13.4 pounds to the box with all the fish being taken on diamond jigs south of Patchogue. Tom relayed some offshore news. On Saturday the Miss Marion returned with bluefin tuna of 62 and 77 pounds taken on the flats north of the Canyon. These fish were chummed. There was very good tuna action in the vicinity of the Bacar-

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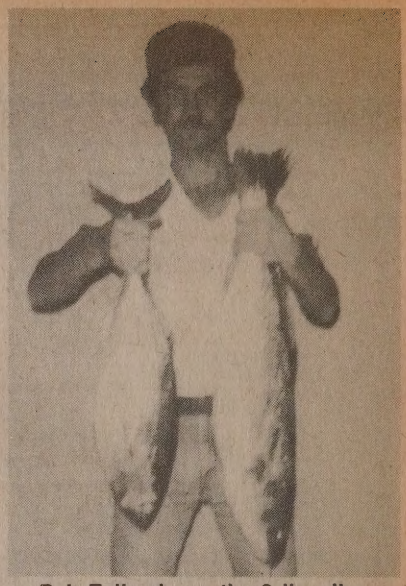

Bob Follo shows the 9 lb. albacore and 14 lb. 9 oz. weak he took during a recent trip aboard the Sheepshead Bay open boat, "Betty W."

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di during the week but this area was quiet on the weekend.

Mike Andreani of **Lindenhurst Bait and Tackle** also took note of the good blackfishing underway at Kismet, RM Bridge and the Sore Thumb. At the latter spot on Tuesday, Keith Angel took a 6.1 pound blackfish. He followed that fish up on Wednesday with 2 blacks of 5¼ pounds each. He used green crabs. Best bets for flounder are Bergen Point, the State Channel and the Sore Thumb. The better catches this week have been made in the State Channel. Lindenhurst Dock at the foot of Wellwood Ave. has some huge snappers along with some very big blue claw crabs. According to Mike, the hard part is finding a safe place to fish from as the dock suffered a good deal of damage from Gloria.

Chester Shew of **Z Crab Tackle** in **Copiague** spoke of lots of blacks at the bridges to his east and west and on the Kismet Reef. Green crabs seem to be working best for the biggest togs. Chester had a very impressive flounder score to report. On Thursday, Jim Scarola and Mike Cannata accounted for 103 flounder up to a hefty 2 pounds. All were taken near the Amityville Cut on clam chum and bloodworms. Livelining for big weakfish continues in the vicinity of the Wantagh Bridges. Bunker have been accounting for most of the fish.

From **Edelman's** in **Farmingdale** Frank Pristera reported some good flounder scores were made on the east side of Fox Creek in the State Channel this past week. Blacks are at Kismet and Robert Moses Bridge and Frank himself can vouch for the quality of the fish. He nailed a 7½ pounder at the north end of the Bridge on Saturday. He also knew that some weakfish are still being livelined near

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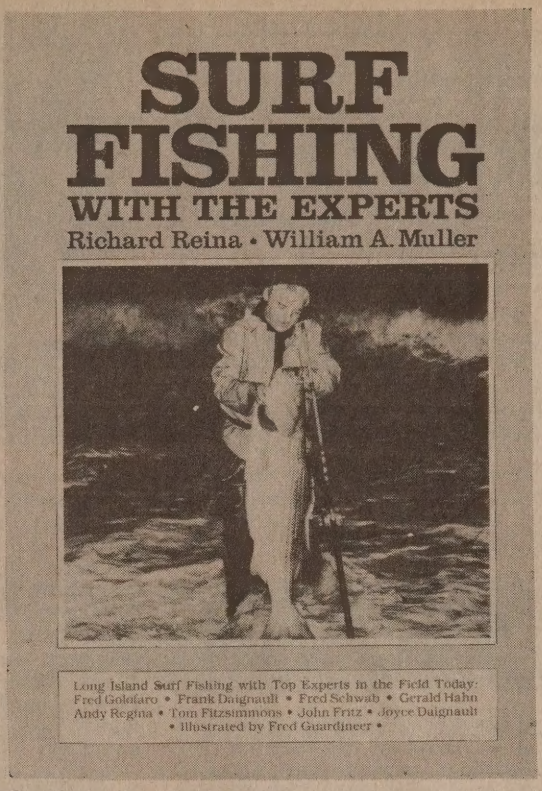
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the inlet area on snappers, blackfish and bunker.

West End REPORT

with Stu Miller

There has been no real lack of fish this past week in our area with bluefish now available mostly daytime in the teens to low 20s. The Bacardi area has been alive with mixed bluefin and yellowfin tunas. A big swordfish was bagged at the canyon while on the inside good fall mixed bags of flounder, sand porgies, pin bass and loads of mixed size blackfish have been caught.

WEST END BAYS/ JONE'S INLET

At **Wanser's Tackle** in Seaford, inbetween sales of bloodworms, Lon told of flounder galore being taken all week at Squaw, Four Corners and Massapequa Cove. Weakfish have been taken at the bridges on bunker at night with the Meadowbrook Bridge a strong leader. Big blues being trolled off the beaches on umbrellas and mixed size blackfish have been dynamite at most of the bridges.

Artie at **Capt. Eddie's Fishing Station** told of very good flounder catches made by his rentals at Massapeque cove with the boats getting anywhere from 3/4 to a full pail per, plus very decent catches of big blowfish. Worms and clam are the ticket along with a working chum pot. One customer came back with 45 good blowfish. Blue claws are also a good item in this area. Rental customers had very good blackfishing at the 2nd and 3rd Wantagh bridges, fish up to 5 lbs. on fiddlers, best on an ebbing tide.

According to Mike at **Causeway Bait and Tackle** in Wantagh tells about a Sunday AM adventure by Charlie Synder, age 15 and Tom Ryan, age 13, who while snapper fishing off the Wantagh Park bulkhead suddenly found themselves catching 7 to 10 lb. bluefish that had blitzed the pod of snappers they were working. Flounder have been red hot this week on the east side of the Wantagh bridges, boats getting anywhere from 15 to 60 per. Best spots were the eastern end of Squaw, Massapequa Cove and Amityville Cut on a flooding tide with red dyed clam and a good working chum pot producing good numbers. A few sea bass and some short fluke (which must be returned) are also being taken. Mike said the

Marc Pagnozzi with some of the 23 blackfish he and his dad caught during a recent trip aboard the Captree open boat, "Jib VII."

fishing west of the Wantagh bridges has been poor. Snapper has slowed in general, but blackfishing at the 3rd Wantagh on high slack has been great with fish to 4 lbs. Saturday saw Bill Ferro and Steve Maddock with 70 blackfish to 7 lbs. plus 12 sea bass taken on an inshore wreck SW of Jones. Some jumbo weaks are being taken at the Big M under the stars on bunker and on worms, along with some very big blues.

Norman at **Nick's Fishing Station** in Merrick identified Rowboat Alley just off the station as the hottest flattie spot of the week. Bloodworms and red dyed clam have been hottest baits for flounder to 2½ lbs., with both tides working. Fish are averaging 1 lb. Still a lot of good sand porgy and pin bass action plus calicos.

Moving on to Freeport, The **Star Stream II** reports having good catches of blues both day and night at Cholera. These have been all big fish, 10 to 18 lbs. They are close by, just a short run from the jetty said the skipper. Please note the boat's new sailing schedule, now sailing Saturday and Sunday only at 6:30 AM, while some much needed cosmetic work and painting is done.

From the **Blue Fin Fleet**, skipper Sy Carlin says the bluefishing continues to be excellent in the local offshore areas. Most fish are at least 10 lbs. and all are being caught on bait. Eleven year old Sean Brandeis from upstate New York bagged a 15½ lb. blue and a 15 lb. blue Sunday. High hooks varied from 9 to the upper teens for the week and the bluefishing should continue well into the fall.

A call from Capt. Pat of the **Lady J III** told of Wednesday's trip for the Bob Donovan group which had fair floundering locally. Friday night's trip was for bluefish with a group from Brooklyn Union Gas while Saturday's Palombo group from Yonkers slugged away at the blues. The night trip Saturday was for Bob's Automotive Products, Queens Village. On Sunday, it was North Merrick Fire Dept.'s turn to hit the flatties inside while on Sunday night, it was blues for the Dave Cohen group of NYC. Bluefishing has been decent with some trips better than others. The blues now are all big and are responding best to bait and chum. Pat classified the flounder fishing as good on a steady basis with sand porgies and pin bass mixed in all on clam and worm.

Bob of the **Freeport Boatmen's Association** called it a fabulous week with the **Super Spray II** loading up every trip on blacks, porgies and sea bass on local wrecks, reefs and rocks. The Association's charter boats have all been working the big bluefish schools of 12 to 2 lbers. with Cholera being hot. On board the **Atlantic** early this week 52 tuna were taken on butterfish and chum at the Bacardi wreck. These were mixed yellowfin, bluefin and bigeyes, 80 to 180 lbs.

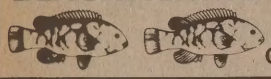
A call from Capt. Tony of the **Miss Freeport II** brought news of decent floundering all week, though Sunday was a bit slow. There's also been lots of small sea bass and porgies mixed in. Flatties have been going to 2 lbs. for pool winners.

Down at **Lou's Fishing Station** at the mouth of Woodcleft Canal, news from the boss is of Sunday's trip for the private boat The Boat with Capt. Steve Colvin at the wheel with pal working the Bacardi area taking 7 mixed bluefin and yellowfin tuna. They fought another big fish for an hour, finally dropping it. A 136 lb. mako shark was taken on Capt. Frank Francis' **Wet and Wild** followed by 22 mixed bluefin and yellowfin tuna. The bluefins went 60 to 150 lbs. while the yellowfins went 30 to 70 lbs. After the 22 tuna, they started releasing everything else as there was no more room in the boat. The canyon yielded a 400 lb. plus sword for another customer. Lou said the flounder action has picked up very well in front of the station accompanied loads of little porgies and sea bass. Excellent blackfishing at the bridges and at the Stone Barge, Iberia Wreck and at Fire Island Reef. Excellent sea bass mixed in with those blacks. Mike Barnett fishing on the **Capt. Al**, has 120 sea bass and a load of blues. Very good weakfishing at night at the Big M on snagged bunker.

Over in Point Lookout we learn from the **Capt. Al** that the bluefishing was excellent Friday, Saturday and Sunday. On Sunday's trip Steve Sweet of Jamaica and Mike Barnett of Freeport, had well over 100 sea bass and 15 jumbo blues. There were lots of doubles on the sea bass and 12 triple headers on Saturday. Friday saw Jerry Crystal of Wesley, NY with 43 sea bass and a 23 lb. blue. Jerry returned Saturday and took the pool again with a 17 lb. blue. Sea bass have been running up to 4 lbs. with lots of 3s. The last four days have been excellent on the bass. A few porgies and blackfish mixed in along with an odd bonito. Lots of action and excitement. The small crowd that was on board Friday did all their bluefishing with jigs. Fish were eating absolutely everything you could throw at

BAYSHORE

BAY BLACKFISHING



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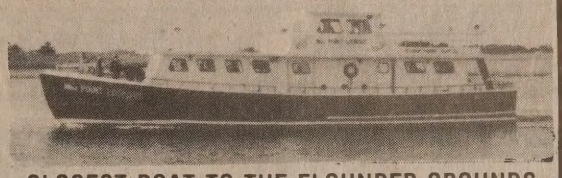

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them and Al says you couldn't ask for better fishing.

Aboard the **Miss Point Lookout** this week, the skipper called the flounder good if not great, with some slow days. Wednesday's AM trip had Marty Barnett with a 1½ lb. pool winner. On the PM trip, Artie Baker from Jamaica had a 1¾ lber. Thursday's AM trip had Howard a regular with an outlaw 3 lb. flattie. Saturday's PM trip had Tony Villani with 8 flounder to 2 lbs. On Sunday AM, Bob and Chris Manning had 25 flounder between them and in the PM, Stan Fogelson nailed a 3½ lb. fluke. Of the 30 fluke caught during this past week, 27 were short fish and were thrown back.

Lots of fish were caught this past week said Bill at **Ed's Fishing Station.** Blackfishing has been very good at the Big M on fiddlers with good numbers, fish up to 4½ lbs. They're being caught at the rate of 25 per boat. Floundering has much improved in Swift, Long and Scow Creeks on bloods and sands and things look good for a building fall. Porgy and sea bass action seems to have slowed this week. Monster blues are being trolled and jigged outside of Jones Inlet and these fish are 16 to 18 lbers. and are chasing bunker. They are falling to live lined bunker and also to jigs.

From Tom at **Scotty's Fishing Station** comes word of good flounder, porgy and sea bass catches in Reynolds Channel and adjoining channels and creeks, on clam and worm bait with a strong help from chum. Stripers are being trolled on the west bar on umbrellas and spoons and are also being taken on live or chunked bunker. Cholera has been hot for blues and small tuna, with the blues running 18 to 22 lbs. on bait.

Charlie at **Beckmann's Tackle** in Lynbrook called the flounder reports from Reynolds channel very good, with the Commodore doing a really

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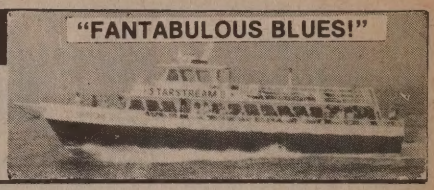

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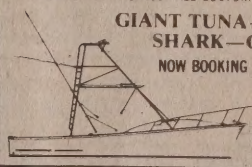

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top job Saturday and Sunday. Private boats are also doing it, with fish being very good sized, best action at the cement block. Boats using clam chum are having better catches said Charlie. Blackfishing has been excellent at bridges, jetties and wrecks on fiddler and green crab, while porgies and sea bass are being picked at the Meadowbrook and Swift Creek areas on worm. Loads of short fluke around along with a few keepers.

NEW YORK BIGHT

Word out of **Skippy's Bait and Tackle** in East Rockaway is of lots of flounder in cement block with blood working best. Blacks have been good at the bridges and blues are blitzing along the beaches, falling to jigs and umbrellas. An 18½ lb. weak was caught by John Greener of Cedarhurst on a whole fresh bunker. Tuna at the Bacardi.

From **Cross Bay Bait and Tackle** on Jamaica Bay, Vi tells of very good catches of blackfish, flounder and porgies off both bridges. In addition to this, Jose Perez bagged a 16¾ lb. blue on a bunker chunk fishing off the North Channel bridge. Kolj Kabashi bagged a 12 and a 15 lb. blue fishing under the north channel bridge drifting chunks. Joe Roman had a 15¾ lb blue in the same place while Kevin had a 13¼ lb. weak.

To the west in Sheepshead Bay, the **Betty W. III** reports super bluefishing Monday through Sunday plus a scattering of albes last Monday. Skipper Al Coley figured that Sunday had to be the best day of the year so far with all fish running 10 to 20 lbs. on bait, jigs and chum. All the fish you could pull says Al who is working 17 and Cholera.

The **Pilot II**, the area's blackfish specialist said the blackfishing has been spectacular this past week. Fishing is consistent on green crabs. Fish are averaging 7 to 8 lbs. with big fish of the week a 9 lb. 8 oz. bruiser taken Thursday.

The Wee Willie report from **Mike's Tackle** across from the fleet, tells of very good blackfish catches on greens at Seabright and to the east. Flounder catches in the bay on the upswing on corn rigs and worms. Excellent day fishing at Farms and 17 with fish in the teens on jigs or bait. Day trips much better than the nights. School tuna being taken at Butterfish Hole and the Canyon.

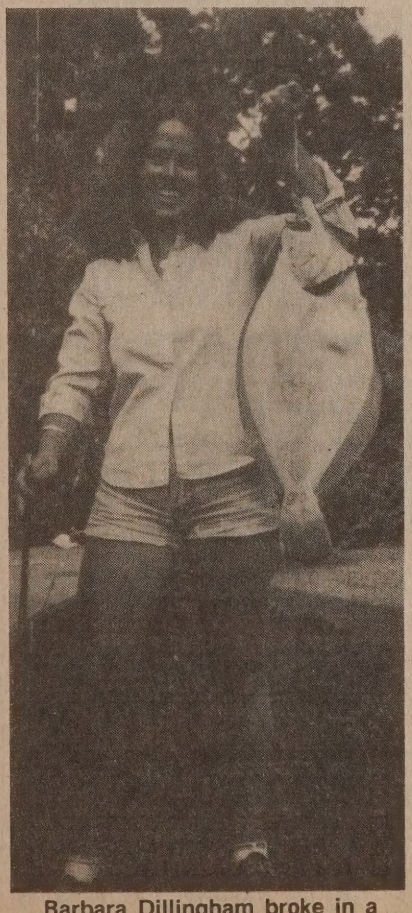
North Shore REPORT

with Marty Garrell

Although the weather gods certainly did not smile on Saturday and Sunday, the fishing for most species was at least a steady pick (bottom fish) and sometimes rather riotous (bluefish). Best fishing was back west in sheltered waters.

WESTERN SOUND

Jack Rumpf at **Jack's Bait** on **City Island** liked the blackfish action in shallow water less than 18 feet deep on running tides. There were lots of 5-8 pound bluefish in all areas, especially off Harts and Execution. The Throgs Neck zone had larger fish for chunkers and trollers. Exceptional catches on Saturday were skipjack tuna in the 10 pound class, taken on poppers off Harts.



Barbara Dillingham broke in a brand new rod on this 8 lb. fluke. She caught the doormat near Mattituck Inlet. Subscriber photo.

John Cacciola at **Glen Cove Sport** informed us that the Over the Hill Gang was still whaling away at bass and blues. Meat Johnson accounted for a 16.8 slammer in less than a foot of water, and Ron Oldenburg had three bass over 15 pounds last week.

The Rosenberg crew hauled in a weakfish of 13 pounds.

Pete Pearson of the **Klondike VIII** finished strong on bluefish with fish to 20 pounds off Stratford. With the best fishing on incoming water occurring later every day, the logical switch was to tautog in shallow water of around 25 feet. Deep water was more of a problem with new moon tides.

Dom Cerbone of the **Apache** said that tautog fishing was a steady pick but not a fast one over the weekend. Pool fish ran 6-8 pounds but there were still all the porgies you wanted. The **North Star** also intended to concentrate on tautog, beginning this week.

NORTH SHORE MID-ISLAND

George Valentine at **Four Winds** in **Huntington Station** described a tremendous blast of big bluefish back in the harbor at Huntington on Thursday, Friday, and Sunday. Fish to 22.6 pounds were taken on just about everything, including diamond jigs, bunker, and plugs. Joe Carter had the big one in the Harbor on Sunday. Eatons Rip featured smaller blues.

Porgies to over a pound were available when you could reach them off Eatons Buoys 13 and 11B. Local bass were numerous but were mostly shorts with very few keepers. Blackfish action at 11B was described as "Fair" with lots of catches of 5-10 fish per boat. One haul of 24 tautog in the 3-7 pound class was reported. Lots of bergall interference was normal because waters were still so warm. Bottom fishing was also quite good off Target Rock and around Marshall Field.

NORTH FORK

Sal Loria at **Captain Marty's** in **New Suffolk** said that nobody was out fishing on the weekend but that there were some porgies in the North Race. The station still has boats and bait available for the Peconic Bays.

Ace Cottral at the **Port of Egypt** told us that there were bluefish to five pounds and school bass as well, chasing the bunker schools in the creeks of **Southold** and Shelter Island. Enough respectable bass were showing in the Gut to keep the market going with the biggest of the last two weeks a 17 pounder. Alligator blues were the main feature out east. Most of the tautog in the zone around the

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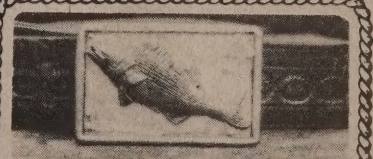

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lighthouse and off the north side of Plum Island were three to five pound fish. Best porgy fishing for the private craft was around Plum Island, but there were a very few large porgies off the Greenlawns, too.

Mattituck Inlet Fishing Station had seen some spectacular bluefishing on bunker chunks around the inlet in the evenings. Fish ran up to seven pounds. The **Mattituck Fishing Station** suffered because of the Saturday winds and the snotty drizzle on Sunday. Still, the charter boat **Captain Bob**, clobbered a variety of bottom fish at the Northville Pipe on Sunday in fifty feet of water. Bob Ceglowski, who is booking charters and has cancelled his Tuesday-Thursday open boat trips, had tautog to 7½ pounds, sea bass and big porgies to two pounds, and even some cocktail bluefish on clams. You chose your baits for whatever fish you wanted. Even on the new moon tide, you could still get away with less than 12 ounces of lead.

Art White at the **A.P. White Bait Shop** in **Greenport** weighed tautog to eight pounds and scup to three pounds last week. There seem to be blackfish just about everywhere, and both the **Brand X** and the **Peconic Star** will be concentrating on tautog beginning this week. George Porter said that there were problems of tide versus wind on Sunday but that Saturday had been quite a bit better on New London scup.

Dan Buckley of the **Nancy Ann II** still has openings for the Saturday, Sunday, and Monday full moon bass trips and he's been very happy with blackfish. "Every day when we fish where we want, we catch all the fish people want with four to five pounders taken for granted." Saturday afternoon in the lee of the Connecticut shore was excellent off New London, with huge porgies, five to ten tautog per fare, pool fish of eight pounds, and all kinds of other fish thrown in, including sea bass, flounder, and a six pound cod. Sunday's activity was severly limited by weather, and the boat had only a pick of blackfish while hiding behind Plum Island.

Pete Jannis used a Kastmaster to drill this 43 lb. cow bass from the Robert Moses surf back on October 2nd. Subscriber photo.

Surf REPORT
with Fred Golofaro

Despite a generally slow week of beach action we still managed to come up with a substantial number of reports. There were some exceptions to the picky action, the most notable being a run of big stripers along the Moriches shore. Montauk was a disappointment to many casters late in the week and over the weekend but if the catch made by a haul sein crew on Friday was any indication, plenty of fish are moving past the point. One particular crew set west of Hither Hills and loaded up their net with stripers and weakfish. The usual load of bluefish were also included in the haul but were left to rot on the beach.

Johnny Kronuch of **Johnny's Tackle Shop** in **Montauk** reported a couple of small bass taken under the light Sunday night and blues up and down the south side during the day on Sunday. Monday morning saw blues hit the beach at Ditch Plains. Prior to Sunday things were real quiet since Wednesday. On Wednesday there was good bluefish action at the Towers west of Hither Hills. Richie Simmons, Mark Reuschel and Paul Rodriguez had a pile of fish on tin and tube combos. Most were small but a couple of fish from 10 to 16 pounds were mixed in. The trio also accounted for a dozen short stripers that night. Don Avondolio called to report a bluefish blitz at Hither Hills on Wednesday. He spoke of hot action from noon until 3PM and thought most of the fish fell into the 6 to 8 pound range.

Not all the fish taken along the south fork beaches this week were blue. Jeff O'Connel managed to drill a 24 pound striper from among the blues at Bridgehampton. The fish was taken late in the week on a diamond jig and white tube and was weighed at Chris Salb's **Bayview Marine and Tackle** in **Sag Harbor**.

Back to that run of stripers along the Moriches shore this past week, Paul Graniello of **J & J Tackle** in **Patchogue** was on top of the recent run of fish and had several notable weigh-ins. The action began on Monday night with fish taken as recently as Sunday AM. Ozzie VanHelmond and Gary Maher put away fish of 20, 20, 20, 28 and 35 pounds on Monday and Tuesday nights. They used blueback 7" Bombers. Tommy Forbes clicked with a 44 pound cow on Tuesday night. The big fish took a Needlefish plug. Saturday night saw Pete Cilento score with a 38 pound bass along with a 10 pound bluefish. Also on Saturday, 13 year old Chris McLoughlin managed to take a 26½ pound cow. Columbus Day morning, Billy Kobel stopped

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by the shop to weigh a 17 pound striper taken that morning. Paul knew of a number of other big fish including several in the 40 pound class taken in recent days but not weighed at his shop. Bomber and Needlefish plugs have accounted for the fish. While beach buggy anglers had the corner on this action, walkers in front of the Smith Point pavillion have been picking away on small blues and short bass with an occasional keeper on tins.

Dave Canale of **J & R Sports Center** in **Oakdale** spent a portion of Saturday night working the Democrat surf and reported things very quiet. He said that casters working Robert Moses parking fields 2 and 4 had a very slow pick of small blues and small stripers this week and on the weekend on jigs and tin.

Overlooked but not forgotten were two very impressive bluefish taken last week and weighed at **Captree Bait and Tackle**. According to Bobby Sprenger, Don Visek of East Islip nailed a 20.6 pound blue at Cedar Beach. Along the same stretch of shore, Richard Wade connected with a 19.2 pound blue. Bobby had nothing of note to report for this week. He did ask that we remind casters that this week is the Annual Bluefish Derby sponsored by the shop, the State Park Commission and The Fisherman. All the details for the contest can be found on page 33.

Tom Healy over at **Augie's Tackle Shop** in **Babylon** reported a quiet week in the surf. He did hear of a few big blues picked on bait at Cedar during the week.

There was some action along the Jones Beach front according to Mike Nicoletti of **Causeway Bait and Tackle** in **Wantagh**. Backtracking to last Monday evening, Ron McEntyre and Andy Kaczmarek weighed in a 15.4 pound bass and a 14.1 pound blue. Both were taken on bunker at Jones Beach. More recently, Ken Pobos weighed blues of 12.8 and 9.8 pounds that were taken on plugs at West End 2 Sunday AM. Ken reported seeing 3 big weaks taken on chunks and plenty of mullet and bunker on the beach. This was on the open beach east of the jetty. Also Sunday, bluefish were taken at parking field 6 with a fair number of short bass taken just east of field 6. Monday (Columbus Day) morning was quiet according to several casters who stopped by the shop prior to my phoning. Saturday saw Keith Rigby score with a 28½ pound striper near Gilgo. The fish was taken on a Rebel.

Charlie Beckmann of **Beckmann's Tackle Shop** in **Lynbrook** reported a pretty quiet week for casters but he did know the jetty at West End 2, Silver Point and Breezy Point produced a pick of big blues over the course of the week. Cut bunker and plugs were accounting for the fish.

Gateway Striper Club member Joe Augeri reported he has been working Breezy Point and casters have been taking lots of bass from shorts up to 8 pounds from both the front and back

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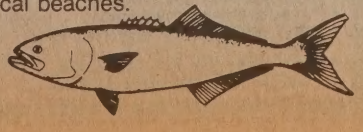
sides. Redfins and Bombers have been the ticket. On Tuesday, Joe managed a pair of 10 pound blues on Hopkins at Fort Tilden.

Up on the North Shore, plenty of bluefish continue to keep casters occupied thanks to the lingering schools of bunker. George Valentine of **Four Winds Tackle Shop** in **Huntington** said that while the more common surf haunts, such as Caumsett, have been producing action, some of the wildest action has been taking place inside the harbor. Casters have been scoring from the Huntington Town Dock and from along West Shore Road as big blues have been riding herd on the bunker schools. Poppers and swimming plugs are taking fish. Thursday and Friday were hot, Saturday slow and Sunday hot again. Jack Babyack nailed an 18½ pound chopper on a popper from West Shore Road Sunday morning.

At **Rocky Point Fishing Stop**, Stan Hentschel spoke of some monster blues being taken at Mattituck, most on fresh bunker. Mixed in with the blues are some very impressive weakfish. Bob Rosenberger nailed one of 13.12 while Glen Just scored with a 12.13 pounder. Schoolie bass, shorts and a few keepers are along local beaches from Cranes to Edwards Avenue on Redfins, Hellcats, Bombers, Rebels and dropper combos. Another caster reported that big blues continue to be taken in Mt. Sinai Harbor with good action there with fish up to 17 pounds on plugs and bait.

Out on the north fork, Ed Kopack of **Warren's Bait and Tackle** in **Aquebogue** spoke of big blues to 17 pounds being taken on the east and west jetties of Mattituck Inlet on outgoing water. Most are being taken on bunker chunks but some are falling to plugs. Rebel poppers seem to be favored in the lure department. Smaller blues are at Hortons mornings and evenings on popping plugs and no word on any bass action along local beaches.



Freshwater REPORT
with Tom Schlichter

Although most anglers journeyed to the briney in hopes of intercepting fall run species, those fishermen who worked the freshwater side were rewarded with fairly good action this week. Bass catches seemed to be on an upswing and trout fishing has been very consistent. Pickerel have also showed marked improvement. Carp are still responding well to bread baits and have been reported as "boiling" at the surface on several lakes in the evening hours.

Mike Nicoletti of **Causeway Bait and Tackle** in **Wantagh**, Traveled to the Yaphank Lakes this week along with two friends. Using an assortment

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of lures, killies, and worms, the three took thirty largemouth bass, mostly shorts, and one rainbow trout while working both upper and lower lake. Locally, pickerel fishing has been excellent with the exception of last weekend. Killies have been the bait of choice and the fish have been in water as shallow as six to eight inches. Bob McGrath has taken 24 pickerel over the last two weeks ranging up to two pounds. In addition, Bob also connected with carp of 8 and 18 pounds and broke off several others. All this action has occured in the southern Twin Lake while a few bass have come from Hempstead Lake.

I got a chance to get out a little myself this week and found the evening action in Middle Island's Artist Lake to be worth the trip. A floating Rebel fooled bass of 12 and 14 inches along the eastern bank while a small spinner produced several small pickerel. A quick stop at Lake Ronkonkoma revealed that bass are still hard to come by but catfish and perch were greedily ravishing night crawlers fished on the bottom.

At **J&R Sports Center** in **Oakdale**, Rod DiGiacomo informed us that Rick Kennehan connected with a three pound plus rainbow trout at Upper Yaphank Lake. Trout fishing at Bubbles Falls and Rattlesnake Creek has been picking up steam with several fish in the three pound class weighed in this week. Use killies or night crawlers. Action in Connetquot River State Park has been consistent. Over in Patchogue's West Lake, Raymond and Sean Roberts have been having a ball with yellow perch. Fishing three days in a row, they totaled scores of 30, 30, and 49 fish. Sean also took a 14'' largemouth bass to top his father's 10'' bigmouth.

Happy to have the Caleb Smith State Park section of the Nissequogue River back in fishable condition, park manager Mike Venuti let us know that after a week's rest the river was alive with fish and most anglers scored very well. Mostly brook trout here, the fish are beginning to show signs of spawning.

From **J&J Bait and Tackle** in **Patchogue**, John reports that most of his regulars have been looking for hte kind of bass that sport stripes. Still, Richie Augustine did stop by to weigh in a largemouth that topped the five pound mark.

George Devlin of the **Fisherman's Deli** in **Riverhead** called the fishing slow this week. One boat took three small bass and a pickerel behind the shop on Sunday but that was about all the action he had witnessed. Although George didn't see the fish, an angler from Long Island Bassmasters stopped by and mentioned that a 4.5 pound bigmouth was taken by a member on Forge Pond Saturday.

From upstate N.Y., Bill Johnson of **Odessey Charters** tells us that they are still doing well with salmon up to 30 pounds. All the action has been trolling and Jay plugs have been the ticket.

High Tide Tables

How to use tide tables: To compute the high tide for the area you wish to fish, simply find the closest area on the conversion table. Add or subtract the hours and minutes as indicated from that area station above. Example: Shinnecock Inlet —0 50 is listed under "On SANDY HOOK." —0 50 means you subtract 50 minutes from the times given for the SANDY HOOK STATION for the day you are going fishing. This is the approximate time for the high tide in the area. For low tide, add 6½ hours to this figure.

DAY	SANDY HOOK AM	SANDY HOOK PM	BREAKWATER HARBOR AM	BREAKWATER HARBOR PM	NEW YORK AM	NEW YORK PM	NEW LONDON AM	NEW LONDON PM	WILLETS POINT AM	WILLETS POINT PM	BRIDGEPORT AM	BRIDGEPORT PM	NEWPORT AM	NEWPORT PM	DATE
THURS.	10:50	11:20	11:35	—	11:30	12:05	12:00	12:20	1:55	2:05	1:50	2:10	10:50	10:15	10/17
FRI.	11:50	—	12:05	12:35	12:05	12:30	12:55	1:15	2:50	3:00	2:50	3:05	11:45	—	10/18
SAT.	12:20	12:50	1:05	1:35	1:05	1:30	2:00	2:15	3:55	4:10	3:45	4:10	12:15	12:40	10/19
SUN.	1:20	1:50	2:10	2:40	2:10	2:30	3:05	3:25	5:25	5:45	4:55	5:15	1:15	1:50	10/20
MON.	2:30	2:55	3:20	3:50	3:15	3:35	4:20	4:40	6:45	7:10	6:00	6:25	2:20	2:55	10/21
TUES.	3:35	4:00	4:35	4:55	4:20	4:40	5:30	5:50	7:50	8:20	7:10	7:35	3:30	4:00	10/22
WED.	4:45	5:00	5:40	6:00	5:20	5:40	6:35	6:55	8:50	9:15	8:10	8:35	4:30	4:55	10/23
THURS.	5:40	5:55	6:35	6:50	6:20	6:35	7:25	7:45	9:40	10:05	9:05	9:30	5:20	5:45	10/24

On Sandy Hook

STATEN ISLAND	+0 27
ATLANTIC HIGHLANDS	—0 01
Red Bank, Navesink River	+1 48
Long Branch	—0 34
SHARK RIVER INLET	—0 18
Shark River Basin	+0 27
MANASQUAN INLET	—0 12
Seaside Park	—0 33
Mantoloking bridge	+5 34
TOMS RIVER	+4 37
Waretown	+2 33
BARNEGAT LIGHT	—0 20
Manahawkin Bridge	+2 33
Beach Haven	+1 47
LITTLE EGG INLET	—0 01
Seven Islands	+0 12
Graveling Point	+1 05
Mullica River	+1 55
Grassy Bay	+1 08
ABSECON INLET	+0 14
Atlantic City Pier	—0 26
Great Egg Harbor Inlet	+0 12
GREAT EGG HARBOR	+0 44
CORSON INLET	+0 09
TOWNSENDS INLET	+0 06
HEREFORD INLET	+0 02
Grassy Sound Bridge	+0 45
Cape May Harbor	—0 02
Rehobeth Beach	—0 07
INDIAN RIVER INLET	+0 41
SHINNECOCK INLET	—0 50
Shinnecock Bay	+1 25
East Quogue	+2 45
Shinnecock Canal	+1 18
Indian Reservation	+3 05
MORICHES INLET	—0 56
Smith's Point	+3 28
Hart's Cove	+1 30
Pontunk Point	+3 35
Mastic Beach	+3 28
FIRE ISLAND INLET	—0 38
Democrat Point	—0 38
Coast Guard Station	—0 19
Fire Island Light	+0 47
GREAT SOUTH BAY	
Sayville (Brown Creek)	+3 39
Heckscher State Park	+3 20
Bay Shore	+2 23
Babylon	+2 12
Amityville	+2 21
JONES INLET	—0 19
Zachs Bay	+1 25
Seaford Harbor	+2 05
Freeport Creek	+0 34
E. ROCKAWAY INLET	—0 06
Long Beach Bridge	+0 19
ROCKAWAY INLET	0 00
Beach Channel Bridge	+0 38
J.F.K. Airport	+0 26

On Bridgeport

Lloyd Point	+0 08
Cold Spring Harbor	+0 08
Bayville Bridge	+0 13
Eatons Neck Point	+0 03
Northport Bay	+0 03
Norwalk Islands	+0 10
Smithtown Bay	+0 08
Cranes Neck Point	+0 05
Port Jefferson Hbr. entrance	+0 03
New Haven Harbor	+0 08
Mount Sinai Harbor	+0 05
Herod Point	—0 07
Mattituck Inlet	+0 05
Horton Point	—0 20
Truman Beach	—0 42
Falkner Island	—0 13
Sachem Head	—0 10
Branford Harbor	—0 07
New Haven Harbor entrance	—0 08
Milford Harbor	—0 07
Stratford, Housatonic River	+0 27
Shelton, Housatonic River	+1 36
Black Rock Harbor entrance	—0 03
Saugatuck River entrance	—0 01
South Norwalk	+0 10
Greens Ledge	—0 01
Stamford	+0 04
Cos Cob Harbor	+0 06
Greenwich	+0 02

On New London

Orient	+0 36
Little Gull Is. (Race)	+0 12
Greenport	+1 04
Southold	+1 43
New Suffolk	+2 26
South Jamesport	+2 32
Shinnecock Canal	+2 33
Noyack Bay	+2 05
Sag Harbor	+0 59
Three Mi. Hbr., Gardiners Bay	+0 21
Promised Land, Napeague Bay	—0 14
Montauk Inlet	—0 25
Montauk Point, north side	—1 13
Niantic	+1 20
Stonington, Fishers Is. Sound	—0 33
Noank, Mystic River ent.	—0 23
THAMES RIVER	
Smith Cove entrance	—0 01
Norwich	+0 12
CONNECTICUT RIVER	
Saybrook Jetty	+1 10
Lyme, highway bridge	+1 24
Essex	+1 38
East Haddam	+2 41
Higganum Creek	+2 54

On Willets Point

Little Neck Bay	—0 10
Execution Light	-0 06
Manhasset Bay	—0 01
Hempstead Harbor	—0 11
City Island	—0 03
Rye Beach	—0 28
Port Chester	—0 09
Mamaroneck	—0 08
New Rochelle	—0 24
Davids Island	—0 02

On Breakwater Harbor

CAPE MAY POINT	—0 10
Miami Beach	+0 17
East Pt., Maurice River Cove	+0 53
Egg Island Point	+0 33
Cape Henlopen	—0 05
ROOSEVELT INLET	+0 09
Mispillion River entrance	+0 33

On New York

Jersey City	+0 07
George Washington Bridge	+0 46
Spuyten Duyvil, W/RR bridge	+0 58
Ossining	+1 53
Peekskill	+2 24
West Point	+3 16
Newburgh	+3 42

On Newport

Sakonnet	—1 10
Tiverton (between bridges)	+0 21
Beavertail Point	—0 02
Prudence Is., Sandy Point	+1 10
Bristol	+1 10
Warren	+0 21
Nayatt Point	+0 12
Pawtucket, Seekonk River	+0 21
East Greenwich	+0 16
Wickford	+0 12
Narragansett Pier	—0 08
Point Judith Hbr. of Refuge	—0 07
BLOCK ISLAND	
Great Salt Pond	+0 05
Block Island (Old Harbor)	—0 14
Watch Hill Point	+0 44

Sunrise/Sunset

DAY / DATE:	RISE:	SET:
THU. 10/17	7:15	6:15
FRI. 10/18	7:16	6:14
SAT. 10/19	7:17	6:13
SUN. 10/20	7:18	6:11
MON. 10/21	7:19	6:09
TUE. 10/22	7:20	6:08
WED. 10/23	7:21	6:07

Moonrise/Moonset

DAY / DATE:	RISE:	SET:
THU. 10/17	11:31AM	8:35PM
FRI. 10/18	12:44PM	9:30PM
SAT. 10/19	1:45PM	10:35PM
SUN. 10/20	2:37PM	11:42PM
MON. 10/21	3:17PM	—
TUE. 10/22	3:48PM	12:52AM
WED. 10/23	4:14PM	2:00AM

Moon Phases

NEW	1st Qtr.	FULL	Last Qtr.
10/14	10/20	10/28	11/5

The Original Knight SOLUNAR TABLES

The schedule of solunar periods below will help plan your day so that you will be fishing good areas during the time when the fish should be most active. The tables are not a guarantee you will catch fish, however.

The major periods begin at the time shown and last for 1½ to 2 hours thereafter, and are in the bold typeface. The minor periods are shorter in duration and the lighter typeface.

	AM Minor	AM Major	PM Minor	PM Major
Thurs.	8:20	2:10	8:55	2:40
Fri.	9:30	3:20	10:05	3:50
Sat.	10:35	4:25	11:10	4:55
Sun.	11:40	5:30	—	6:00
Mon.	12:15	6:25	12:35	6:50
Tues.	1:05	7:10	1:20	7:35
Wed.	1:50	7:55	2:05	8:20
Thurs.	2:35	8:35	2:45	9:00

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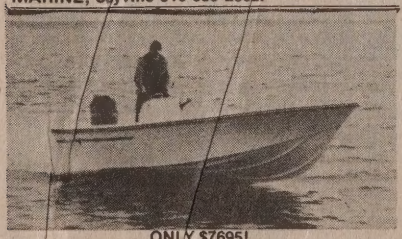

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18' Steiger Craft, 75 hp Mercury elec. start. 21' model also avail. Commercial & pleasure models. MARINELAND: Mattituck, 516-298-4020. Long Beach, 516-889-5000.

WANTED—Johnson, Evinrude O/Bs. Any cond. Will pick up. Used parts available. 516-981-6487.

LUHRS 340—offers more standard features than any other Sportfisherman in her class, incl. the welded aluminum tower, compl. w/console. In stock. Also dealers for Sportcraft—IMP—OMC Sea Drive; OMC Stern Drive; Johnson; Mercruiser. SPELLMAN'S MARINE, 1708 North Hwy, Southampton, NY 11968; 516-283-7907.

USED PARTS
Large inventory, reconditioned Evinrude, Johnson, Mercury, OMC sterndrive. Lower units, housings, gears, blocks, starters, power packs, props. KELLY'S OUTBOARD WORLD INC., 516-567-3417.

27' PHOENIX 1980 225 Chrysler engines. Tower. Loaded offshore fishing machine. Priced to sell. Days: 212-246-4074. Nites: 516-997-7438.

RENKEN 80 17' Bowrider, 120 FWC Volvo, w/Galv. trailer, P/Winch, DF, CB, compass. Garage kept. Mint. 16700. 516-795-4269.

SEACRAFT 20' CC, 120hp, FWC, electronics, outriggers, downrigger, teak trim, Ritchie compass, galv. tandem trailer, pwr winch. $5900. Days: 516-273-9200. Eves: 516-273-9349.

BAYVIEW MARINA: Mariner, Mercruiser, Volvo. Parts, sales, service. Factory certified mechanics. Help for the do-it-yourselfers. 718-525-5724.

17' MFG, 1983 90 hp Johnson PT/T. Approx. 40 hrs. 1980 Shoreline trailer. Compass, CB. Full canvas. All excl. 516-472-9298.

23' SEA RAY Cuddy, 155 hp V6 OMC I/O. Excl. cond. $6000. 516-586-2029.

MAKO 25' Twin 150 Johnsons 1983. 200 gal., Loran, VHF, CB, Lowrance recorder, leaning post, rocket launcher, outriggers. Custom built for offshore fishing. Much, much more. $27,000. 516-735-4691.

19' ALINDALE 1975 open fiberglass fishing skiff. W/Motorwell. Unbelievably stable. $1000. Eves: 718-470-0473.

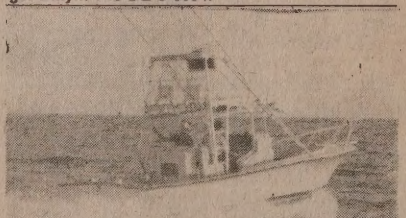
115 hp EVINRUDE 1977; 5 hrs. on rebuild. Excl. cond. W/controls. Before 5: 516-725-0138.

STRIKER Canyon Runner 34', 1975, T555s. Etta Mae has all electronics & fishing equip. Days: 516-349-1700. Eves: 516-826-8370.

USED 671n GM Diesel. Compl. w/Allison 1.5:1 gear. MONTAUK MARINE BASIN INC., 516-668-5900.

One pr. Chris Craft engines 327 Q, motors approx. 1100 hrs. Run like clocks. Incl. 2½ to 1 Paragon clutches & mechanical tachometers. Compl. FWC, heavy duty cast iron pans, etc. Asking $2000 for both. POLYCHRON MARINA, 914-632-4088. Ask for Brett or Leroy.

30' ULRICHSEN Sportfisherman, 250 hp Chrysler, FWC, Flybridge, VHF, depthfinder. In water; to go. Bklyn. 718-DE 9-3054.



24' RAMPAGE Tournament, full Pipe Welders tower, VHF, chart recorder, Volvo 260 I/B. This boat is loaded & ready for serious fishing. Many other Rampages in stock. NORTHROP YACHT SALES, 203-226-1915.

1985 4 WINNS 23' Family Cruiser, 200 hp Mercruiser. Loaded w/extras. 11 hrs. old. Slip incl. $18,995 terms avail. 516-924-0035.

SEA CRAFT 1977 SF w/1982 200 hp Johnson. Loaded. Asking $17,000 or best offer. 203-245-8343

BAYHEAD MARINA: Mariner, Mercruiser, Volvo. Special! Rebuilt Mercruiser trim cylinder $95. w/core. 718-525-5724.

24' PRIVATEER. Port of Egypt, Southold, 516-765-2445.

28' FIBERGLASS Fishing Machine, F/B 2 sta. control. Gin pole, rod holders. Electronics incl. CB, chart D/S, VHF, Loran C, T/T. Economical Lehman diesel & extras. $13,500. 516-668-3731.

23' CRITCHFIELD 1969, Glass, 160 hp Merc. I/O. Dual batt., T/T, cuddy. Sleeps 2; potty, compass, spotlight, VHF, new 40 gal. gas tank. Good clean cond. Full canvas. All CG equip. Many extras. $4600. 516-593-8760.

1978 MFG 19' Caprice, 85 hp Evinrude, SST Prop, w/galv. EZ Roller trailer. Compass, depthfinder. Full canvas mooring cover. Power winch. Showroom cond. $6200. 516-785-8724.

MAKO 25', Twin 150 Evinrudes. Custom I/B tower, outriggers, leaning post, rocket launcher, fighting chair. Hynautic controls. Canyon range, 200 gal. capacity. Canvas/cushions, teak pulpit, Loran, paper recorder, VHF, CB, digital depth, Dytek temp. AM/FM cassette stereo. More. Used only 1½ seasons. Cruise: 30 mph. $42,500. Replacement cost over $60,000. Will demo. 212-557-0900, Ext. 540 days.

30' MC KENZIE Cuttyhunk, tuna tower, Loran, Nissan diesel 675. $14,500. Call MONTAUK MARINE BASIN, 516-668-5900.

1984 CHRIS CRAFT 21x8 Scorpion Fisherman, 190 hp I/O Mercruiser. Electronics. Fully equip. Full canvas. Mint. Fast, new. Asking $17,000. Wayne: 212-481-0363.

FOR SALE: 1 pr. 504 Cummins, compl. w/Borg Warner 2-1 transmissions. Just overhauled. No hrs. Asking $15,000. MONTAUK MARINE BASIN, 516-668-5900.

STAMAS 26' Chrysler 250 FWC. New canvas, VHF, recorder, outriggers. Extras. Excl. cond. $7500. 516-378-6349.

MAKO
EVINRUDE
BOSTON STYLE WAHOO
★ WHOLESALE ★ RETAIL ★ EXPORT ★ WHOLESALE ★ RETAIL
AL GROVER'S • (516) 379-7100 AL GROVER'S • (516) 379-7100 AL GROVER'S • (516) 379-7100

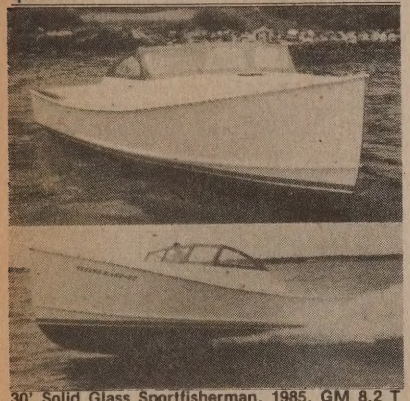
1972 22.2 AQUASPORT CC. Yard maintained. Electronic box plus many extras. Need engine. $3000. Eves: 718-531-3464.

1973 MARLIN, Aluminum trailer. Full mooring cover. Excl. cond. $2500. 516-277-5185.

REGAL 1984 20' Empress 200 XL, cuddy. Sleeps 4. 228 Mercruiser. Loaded; immaculate. 516-481-5579.

EVINRUDE

NEW 1984 EVINRUDES 1984
2-$280; 4-$450; 6-$608; 8-$708; 9.9-$916; 15-$1028; 25-$1236; 35-$1336; 40-$1480; 50-$1900; 60-$2160; 70-$2440; 90-$2640; 115-$2900; 120-$3900; 140-$3950; 150-$3950; 175-$4200; 235-$4750; 275-$7900. ELECTRA MARINE INC., 610 Merrick Rd., Lynbrook, NY 11563. Scott & McCulloch parts. FOB/H. WI. 516-599-3003. We ship anywhere. MERCURY OUTBOARDS. New 1984. Phone quotes.



30' Solid Glass Sportfisherman, 1985, GM 8.2 T diesel. Suitable inshore or canyon, 150 gal. fuel, cruise 22 knots. Dry, stable, seaworthy. Many electronics. Mint. $59,500. KARP MARINE AGENCY, 209 E. Bayberry Rd, Islip, NY 11751; 516-581-3308.

28' TOPAZ 1979, twin TMD40 Volvo, tower w/controls, outriggers, tabs. Stove, refrig., fighting chair. Loran, white line, VHF, temp gauge, radar. Canyon ready. Plus much, much more. $64,500. 718-326-0835.

1982 MARINER 15 hp Long shaft w/6 gal. tank. Like new cond. $950. 516-473-7391.

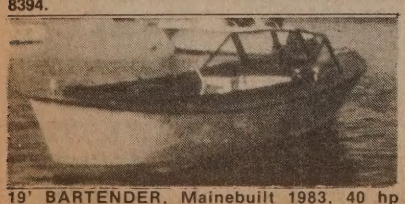
POINTER 18' center console, 85 hp 1977 Mercury. Excl. cond. Brand new Teleflex steering, control cables. In water; ready to go. $3500. 203-531-9581.

21' WINNER Viscount '73, 120 Mercruiser I/O, cuddy. New canvas; just overhauled. Asking $5788. 516-249-0107.

SHAMROCK Keel Drive I/Bs 17', 20' & 26'. Shamrock H.T. 25'9 250 hp P.C.M. 5 models. SOUTH SHORE BOATS, 516-288-2400.

1981 Century 5000, 23', 228 Merc. Less than 100 hrs. Full canvas & electronics. $15,200 Neg. After 6PM: 516-546-2879.

22.2 AQUASPORT FFP 200 Evinrude. VHF, CB, Si-Tex recorder. Dual batt. $7500. Eves: 914-273-8394.



19' BARTENDER, Mainebuilt 1983, 40 hp Mariner. Good rough water fishing boat. Asking $6500. Eves: 516-698-2326.

BAYHEAD MARINA BOAT SALES: Mariner, Mercruiser, Volvo. Performer & Mitchcraft boats. Factory auth. sales & service. Factory certified mechanics. 718-525-5724.

1979 30' TROJAN, 2 FWC engs. Flybridge, Bimini top. Sleeps 6. VHF radio, 2 DF, Loran C. Low hrs., etc. Must sell. New boat coming. Best offer over $30,000. 718-625-3921/494-0015.

SHAMROCK 20' open, I/B boat for all seasons. Full canvas; fish in comfort. New downrigger, new paper recorder, CB, compass, 2 batt., etc. Yard maintained; in water. Asking $9500. 516-223-2234.

BOAT, Motor, Trailer Combos! All brand new. Sportcraft 16' Sportsman, 85 60 hp Evinrude & Shoreline trailer-$7995. All brand new Sportcraft 170 Adventurer, 60 hp Evinrude & Shoreline trailer-$8495. 3-yr. factory guar. on motors. ARGO BOAT CO., 718-527-9870.

EVINRUDE

WE'LL BEAT ANY DEALER'S advertised price—and service it, too! AL GROVER'S, Freeport, 516-378-0510.

All 1985 EVINRUDES—Sale prices w/extended warranties. MARINELAND, Long Beach, 516-889-5000.

1982 Sportcraft C/Console, new 1985 70 hp Johnson. Full yr. warranty. Loaded boat-$8995.
1983 Privateer c/console 18' 70 hp Johnson. Loaded boat-$7650.
1983 Dell Quey dory 13', 83-35 hp Johnson, custom canvas, swivel seats-$4300
1982 Renkin 21' cuddy OMC 140 hp I/O. Sleeps 3-$8995. Must sell.
1980 Chris Craft Scorpion totally recond. 21', 188 Merc I/O-$13,995.
1979 Mark Twain 19' OMC 200 hp I/O-$5000
1981 Sailboat Lugar Southwind 21', trailer, 3 sails-$6500
Leftover 1985 Grady White 246 Offshore Pro, twin engine pkg. Call for price.
1984 Cobia Odysee 170, new 70 hp Joh-$8995
1983 Glassport 17', 1984 140 hp Johnson. Loaded. Trailer-$9450
1982 Sportcraft C/C, 1984 90 hp-$7650
1975 Grady White 204 Hatteras 20' 4", 1983 Evr. 140 hp-$6500
1984 Privateer 21' 6", 8' 4" beam, AC125 Volvo I/O, 15 hp Ponymotor, spray hood, large console/cover. Electronics-$13,100.
Lots more new & used boats avail. Cross over the bridge & save.

EDDIE'S MARINE SERVICE CORP., 210 Bch. 2nd St., Lawrence, NY 11691; 718-327-3168.

17' FIBERGLASS Tri-Hull center console, 65 hp Mercury. Must see. $1700 or Best Offer. After 6PM: 781-4011.

SEA RAY 25½', 10' beam, Twin Mercs. 1983 Amberjack. Canyon runner. North Star 800 Loran, Furuno FF, Icom radio, radar arch. Lee outrigs, 75 gal. reserve tank. Custom seats, fighting chair, remote search light. Head, shower, stereo/tape. Ocean-worthy. Many extras. Sea fast! After 4PM: 718-225-0740.

22' 4" CHRIS CRAFT Fiberglass, Cutlass cuddy. New 1982 "Kim." 1984 270 hp Crusader 350 FWC. Low hrs. SS Radar arch, radar, VHF, Loran, CB, white line. Navy top, side curtains, winter cover. Head, riggers, full SS bow rail. Teak pulpit. Many extras. Mint, will sell with/without electronics or never used '85 Cox 5000 lb. cap. trailer. After 7PM: 516-239-9112.

1983 SPORTCRAFT 22.4' Walkaround cuddy cabin. Evinrude 175 hp w/SS Prop & spare, 15 hp kicker. Dual batt.-new late '83. Fully equip for bay to offshore fishing for sharks, bluefish, school tuna. All engine instrumentation. Loran C, VHF, Lowrance X-15, digital depthmeter. Penn swivel downriggers, Bennett T/T. Full canvas; CG safety equip. Anchor line, 50# BG tackle & lures/rigs. Outriggers, flying gaff, pro tail rop. Porta-Potti; 5" TV. Portable fishing chair. Sleeps max. 2 adults & 1 child. Great weekend home away from home! Boat in Freeport. High & dry paid for till 4/86. Lost job; must sell! $18,500. 201-326-9662.

MAKO 25 '83. Mint cond. Brand new 235 Evinrude, canvas cuddy, 200 gal. fuel cap. Live bait well, SS wheel & rails, tackle drawers. Loran, VHF, Si-Tex recorder, depth flasher. Outriggers. Perfect offshore/inshore machine. Will store for winter. $24,000. 516-324-2955.

44' CHARTER BOAT, certified 36 passengers, 671 diesel. Flush deck. Hull inspection 1985. $10,500. Nights & W.E.: 516-599-1232.

DUSKY 26' wide body 1983 Twin 235s. Tuna door, T-Top, encl. V-900 color, 1350 WL, Loran, digital, Dytek. Life raft, winch, full chair, tackle locker 400 gal. fuel. Bristol cond. $42,000. 203-434-8629.

1982 STAMAS 32' Sportcruiser. Bridge w/Bimini. T255 Mercruisers, FWC, 2-station tabs, engine syncs, depthfinder & fume sniffers. VHF, color TV w/remote antenna. Swim platform & ladder. Hot shower, canvas. Low hrs. Custom extras. After 7PM & Wknds: 516-567-6733. Must sell. Reduced $20,000.

1977 SEA CRAFT Sceptre, 233 Merc. 380 hrs., 5-pc. New canvas. Mercathode, Mieco Loran, Si-Tex recorder, Datamarine digital, Dytek, Horizon Maxi VHF, CB. Riviera D/R, Lee O/R. Dual batt. & switch, Imron '84, w/without 5000 lb. Shoreline galv. Trlr, p/w. Days: 914-761-0150. Eves: 914-762-3051. Wknd: 516-728-2712.

BERTRAM 31, 1972. Fish equip. Excl. cond. Loaded. 600 hrs. No time to fish. $42,500. 914-232-5356.

1982 21' PROLINE center console, 1984 115 hp, VRO Evinrude w/extended warranty. Very low hrs. SST prop, spray hood, rod holders. In water. Mint cond. Eves: 516-432-5336.

SEA OX 23' 1983 Walkaround cuddy. 235 hp w/economixer, 9.9 hp elec. start, CB & VHF radios. Si-Tex recorder & flashing depth & Loran in custom teak cabinet. Water temp. gauge, 2 custom teak tackle lockers, SW washdown, dual batt. Full canvas. Better than new. $20,900. After 6PM: 203-438-5517.

1976 23 Penn Yan, 1976, 225
1981 25 custom, tower, 5-150 Merc
1974 28 Luhrs, single engine
1974 28 Uniflite Salty Dog, tower
1981 28 Bertram FB, TMD 40
1969 31 Bertram, Sportfish
1966 31 Bertram Bahia Mar
1976 31 Bertram FB. Great shape
1962 31 Bertram Express Cruiser
1969 34 Post, wood
1968 34 Houseboat, summer retreat?
1971 42 Hatteras 1981 VT903 Fish equip.
SEA JAC, 728-4220/6627.

24' SLICKCRAFT '75, 235 OMC rebuilt engine to O.D. 8485. Cabin, bunks, stove, ref., canvas. CG Pkg. Compass, VHF, DF, Si-Tex recorder, bait well, SW wash. Must sell. Many extras. $10,500. 516-868-4714.

SEA CRAFT 20, SF CC, 150 hp Evinrude. Depth finder, VHF. Outrigger, downrigger. New canvas. In water. $7500. Days: 516-283-2047. Eves: 516-283-2839.

STARCRAFT 22' Deep V cuddy 1982, 140 OMC. Loaded. Well maintained. DAVE BOFILL Marine, 516-283-6736.

19' BOSTON WHALER Outrage 1973, twin Evinrudes 65 hp. Galv. trailer, P/W, VHF, Si-Tex D.R. Extras. $7900. 516-668-3095. 718-987-1512.

1971 42 Hatteras, Sportfish. 1981 VT903, 1/2 tower. Rybo riggers, Furuno radar, Rybo chair, plotter. Everything for fishing. $149,000.
1981 28' Bertram, TMD 40s, radar, Loran, outriggers. $70,000. SEA JAC, 728-4220/6627.

'79 GROVER 26', 120 Lehman. Low hrs. New electronics. Fully equip for offshore fishing. $25,000. After 5PM: 516-878-4530.

32' PACEMAKER FBSF, Mercs, Loran, recorder. Fish rigged, excl. cond. Freeport. 516-599-2309 or 718-698-5405. Eves.

Continued On Next Page

New 1985 19' Seaway cuddy cabin. Full canvas. Rigged & water ready W/1985 75 hp Mariner ELPT. $10,700. AERO MARINE, Island Pkwy, Island Pk, NY. 516-431-5061.

New 23 Seaway Cuddy Cabin, self-bailing. Full canvas. Rigged & water ready w/1985 115 hp Mariner ELPT. $13,500. AERO MARINE, Island Pkwy, Island Pk, NY. 516-431-5061.

23' ROBALO center console, twin 115 Evinrudes, T-Top, VHF, Loran, outriggers. Excl. cond. $10,500. After 5PM: 324-3451.

17' SWAMPSCOTT Power Dory, Maine Built 1984. Never used. Best offer over $1000. Eves: 698-2326.

New 23' Seaway 1985 Center Console. Self-bailing. Rigged & water ready w/new 1985 90 hp Mariner ELPT. $10,595. AERO MARINE, Island Pkwy, Island Pk., NY. 516-431-5061.

23' SEA CRAFT Sceptre, cuddy, 1981 225 hp Mercury. Loran, VHF, recorder. Excl. cond. $16,500. 516-728-3797.

AQUASPORT 222 CCP 1984. Twin Yamahas, Loran, VHF, recorder, depth finder. Water temp, dual batts., outriggers, live bait well. Low hrs. Mint. Boat on L.I. 9-5: 212-972-3505. After 5: 718-423-3678.

GRADY WHITE 204C '79 w/'84 115 hp Yamaha. Full warranty. Chart recorder, VHF. Much more. Very clean. $10,800. K&K OUTBOARD, 516-431-1865.

'82 MAKO 258 Cuddy, twin 150s, Loran, recorder, 200 gal. tank. Fighting chair, outriggers, gin pole. Too much to list. Must sell. $27,500. 516-766-3838.

IS IT True you can buy boats for $43 through the U.S. Government? Get the facts today! 312-742-1142, Ext. 7161.

1978 JOHNSON 15 hp Short Shaft. Very low hrs. 6 gal. tank. Extension handle, storage stand. $650. 516-681-6742.

22' GRADY WHITE I/O, 488 FWC Mercury, SW washdown. Full custom acrylic & canvas wrap-around. Just 260 hrs. Many extras. $19,500. After 7PM: 718-438-4653.

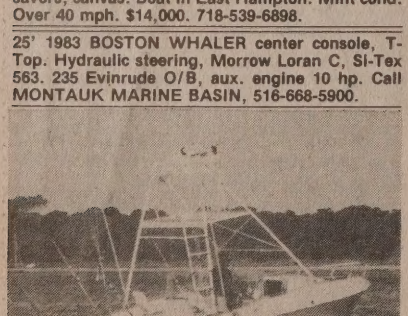
20' AQUASPORT 1979 cuddy cabin, 115 hp Johnson, white line recorder, dual batt. Outriggers, Sea Temp. Fast, economical, sea worthy. Mint. Original owner. New boat arriving; must sell. $9500. Days: 212-557-2345. Jim. Eves: 516-586-4645.

26' GROVERBUILT 1980 120 hp Lehman diesel. Loran, VHF, paper recorder. Docked in Southold. 425 hrs. $24,500. 516-364-9846.

1982 BOSTON WHALER 25' Outrage, twin 1985 Evinrudes 150 hp + 140 gal. fuel cap. 1982 Shoreline trailer. Full canvas. Super deluxe center console, compass, Loran, 151 Igloo, VHF, depth finder graph, Stereo cassette AM/FM. Dytek water temp. Penn downriggers, leaning post w/rocket launcher. Outriggers, 400' line & anchor. Aluminum fight chair mounts on bow. Extras. Excl. cond. Ready to go. $32,000. Mon-Fri, Days: 212-581-4487.

1981-82 AQUASPORT 22.2 Cuddy, 225 Mercury, VHF, CB, SS prop, swim platform. Anchor, life-savers, canvas. Boat in East Hampton. Mint cond. Over 40 mph. $14,000. 718-539-6898.

25' 1983 BOSTON WHALER center console, T-Top. Hydraulic steering, Morrow Loran C, Si-Tex 563. 235 Evinrude O/B, aux. engine 10 hp. Call MONTAUK MARINE BASIN, 516-668-5900.



25' CHRIS CRAFT Tournament Fisherman, 10' beam, tower, outriggers, chair, Loran, VHF, CB., sea temp, chart recorder, T/T, 1983 twin Mercruiser 470 I/Bs 170 hp, FWC. Economical. Reduced to $18,500. 2-boat owner. 516-728-6466.

1982 SHAMROCK 259 cuddy cabin, 200 hp Turbo-charged Perkins diesel, 20K at 4GPH. Radar, Loran, VHF recorder, water temp. Stern controls, fight chair, out/downriggers, gin pole. $37,500. Days: 516-935-8058. Eves: 598-0094.

1985 MINN KOTA Electric O/B model 65W & 105 amp/hr battery. Excl. cond. $140. Gene Giffords, 8-5, 582-4566.

WINNER 18' 85 hp Johnson, w/galv. trailer. CG Pkg. Extras. Runs great. Will demo. $2300. 718-939-7420.

19' 1985 RAMPAGE 70 hrs., 150 hp Evinrude, T-Top, 66 channel VHF, teak trim, spray dodger-$14,000; 24' 1985 Rampage Tournament 260 Volvo, 65 hrs., Pipewelders tuna tower, plus every option in the book-$35,000; 24' 1985 Rampage Express, 100 hrs., 260 Volvo, full canvas, VHF, Loran, chart recorder-$29,000. NORTHRUP YACHT SALES, 203-226-1915.

30' CHRIS CRAFT Sea Skiff, twin 185 hp FWC. Chart recorder, VHF. In water; w/all equip. Located Hudson River. $7500. 914-279-8230.

31' BERTRAM 1979, twin 330 hp Mercruisers. Murray fight chair, Lee Sr. outriggers, micrologic Loran, King VHF, Si-Tex chart recorder, teak fish box. Bimini, Halon system, constavolt. Much more. Excl. cond. Asking $54,500. Day: 212-580-6808. Eves: 516-248-7768.

12' DURANAUTIC Aluminum boat, 10 hp Evinrude. Cox trailer, oars, tank. Excl. $875. 516-671-5907.

1985 MAKO 228, 235 hp. Approx. 35 hrs. Atlantic Fab's arch, VHF, CB, Stereo. Outriggers, Loran, Lowrance X15 & digital depth recorder. Live bait well, SW wash, Halgon lights. Dual batt. & switch. Full canvas, filler berth. $24,500. 516-799-6967.

1984 JOHNSON 40 hp. Used 3 times. Commercial workhorse. Manual start, 3 props. Tank. Warranty. Carry w/one hand to trunk of car. $1495. Eves: 516-785-2103. Joe.

1982 BOSTON WHALER 15'. Bought new in 1983. 55 Evinrude, bow rails, mooring cover, '83 EZ trailer. $5500. After 6PM: 516-678-3753.

MAKO 22', 1982 175 Mercury, 20 hp Evinrude, Horizon VHF radio. Si-Tex recorder. Spray hood, dual batt. Boat in water; will demo. $8500. 718-251-0046 Nites.

23 SEA CRAFT S.F. 260 I/O, FWC Merc. 1983, 427 hrs. New outdrive, custom T-Top w/electronic box. Mieco-Loran, X-15 recorder, CB, VHF, Dytek Temp. 2 gas tanks below deck-150 gal. Rocket launcher/leaning post. Bow mounted fighting chair, 21' custom glass outriggers, 2 batt., anti-electrolysis system. Winter cover, more. Mint cond. Asking $21,000. Replacement cost $35 plus. Days: 212-683-7200. Eves: 516-669-0973.

CANOES & DINGYS: On sale now! Also 2 hp Evinrudes, as low as $189 w/purchase of boat. AL GROVER'S, 516-378-0510.

MAKO 17' 1981 85 hp Evinrude. New CB; new Bimini top. SS rails & steering wheel, depth finder, compass, 2 chairs. Winter cover. All on galv. trailer. Like new. $7500. After 7PM: 718-634-4398.

FOR SALE: 1984 Manino 28' Lobster boat. 260 hp Merc. I/B motor. 400 hrs. Excl. cond. Raytheon V900 color finder, Raytheon 5'' chart recorder, Raytheon 750 Loran. Sea Hawk 40 CB, Sea Hawk 88 VHF, 12'' Osco hauler. $31,500. 914-357-4379.

AQUASPORT 22.2 CC, 200 Evinrude, DF, VHF. Orig. owner. Exceptionally maintained; 125 hrs. No time to fish. $8500. 516-221-6945, 293-8330.

MAKO 21' 1978 Deep V, 200 hp Evinrude 1979 w/1985 powerhead. PT&T, SST Prop. Offshore console, Si-Tex 797 Loran, Si-Tex 357 recorder, DF Flasher. Sea water temp gauge, VHF, CB, stereo. Outriggers, SW Washdown, T/T. Much more. Mint cond. $13,800. 516-473-4340 or after 4PM: 212-556-7132. Ask for Joe.

MUST SELL—Fibre 24' 250 hp I/B. Asking $3500. 516-587-4215/285-9630.

29' DELANEY Sea Skiff, 440 Chrysler FWC. Auto pilot, auto. anchor winch, 2 depth meters, 2 fishing chairs, pressurized water system, 20 gal., swim platform. $3500. 516-775-3811.

1984 GRADY WHITE 204C Walkaround, cuddy cabin, 1984 185 hp Evinrude, custom canvas/cushions, swim platform, Porta-Potti. Dual batt., all gauges, SS prop/spare, VHF, AM/FM cassette stereo. Video fishfinder, compass, spotlight. Full CG Equip. Rod holders/racks. In water. Mint. $19,000. 718-767-0434.

FISHING TACKLE

DEADLY FLOUNDER RIGS
Tangle-free, tandem tied w/special stand-off knot. Used by sharpies. Sproat hooks for more hook-ups. 3/$3.75 inc. p/h. BILL SMITH, 159 Vermont Ave., Bay Shore, NY 11706.

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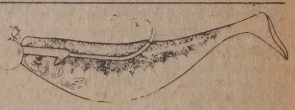

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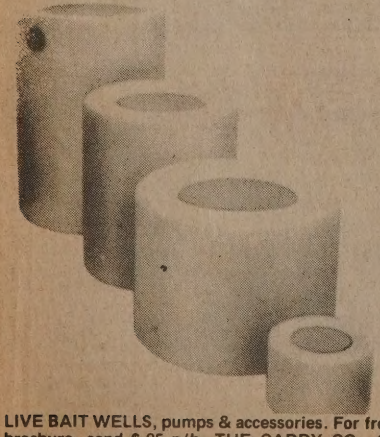

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